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ASSASSIN IS FOILED IN ANKARA INCIDENT AGAINST VON PAPEN

Reich Ambassador to Turkey And Wife Involved in Bombing Attempt

AFFAIR VIEWED SERIOUS

Italian Press Places Blame on Agents of British or Soviet Union

Special to the Nichi Nichi

LISBON, February 24.—A bomb exploded about 10 meters behind the car of German Ambassador Colonel Franz von Papen and Mrs. Papen as it was proceeding to the German Embassy at 10 a.m. this morning, according to a report from Ankara.

Colonel and Mrs. von Papen were uninjured, but the bomb thrower and two little girls who happened to be near by were killed instantly.

Foreign Minister Sukru Saracoglu, the Mayor of Ankara and other Turkish officials immediately called at the Embassy to express regrets. The Turkish authorities are regarding the incident very seriously.

Seen Desperate Move

D.N.B.

MILAN, February 25.—The failure of the attempt on the life of the German Ambassador to Turkey Franz von Papen, in Ankara was characterized as a typical crime, committed by the British Secret Service. The Corriere della Sera stated that the British Secret Service had committed this crime for the purpose of disturbing the good relations between Germany and Turkey and, at the same time, to get rid of this dangerous opponent. The sinking of Turkish ships by Soviet submarines in the Black Sea was likewise seen as proof of the desperate position of the opponents of the Axis Powers who were now reverting to every means.

According to reports from Sofia the news on the attempt on the life of the German Ambassador to Turkey, became known in the Bulgarian capital on Tuesday evening creating a big sensation there. Bulgarian papers featured the official reports on the first pages but so far have refrained from any comments and speculations. However, strong indignation was prevalent all over Bulgaria and it is quite openly stated that undoubtedly Germany's enemies, democratic and Bolshevik circles, should be held responsible for this act. These circles simply violated the hospitality of the country in order to carry out their criminal plans of murder and they did not shrink from political assassination in a neutral country.

SECOND SESSION CALLED FOR SENIOR STATESMEN

Former Premiers and Other Dignitaries Hear Reports and Discuss Measures

The Government held its second Senior Statesmen's Conference at the official residence of the Premier at 9 a.m. Thursday. Count Keigo Kiyoura, Baron Reijiro Wakatsuki, Admiral Keisuke Okada, Koki Hirota, General Senjuro Hayashi, General Nobuyuki Abe, Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai, Prince Fumimaro Konoye, Baron Kiichiro Hiranuma and Yoshimichi Hara, the President of the Privy Council, were called to attend the Conference. Premier General Hideki Tojo, Foreign Minister, Shigenori Togo, Navy Minister Shigetaro Shimada, Lieutenant-General Tadaichi Suzuki, President of the Planning Board and Naoki Hoshino, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet represented the Government.

The function was opened with the speech by Premier General Hideki Tojo in which the Premier revealed in detail the plan of the Government regarding the new stage of the War of Greater East Asia and the schemes for construction works. Following the Premier's address, Colonel Hideo Ohira, the chief of the Army Press Section and Rear-Admiral Minoru Maeda, the chief of the Navy Press Section reported on the war results achieved by the Imperial Army and Navy during the Singapore campaign.

Chiang Back in Chungking

Domei

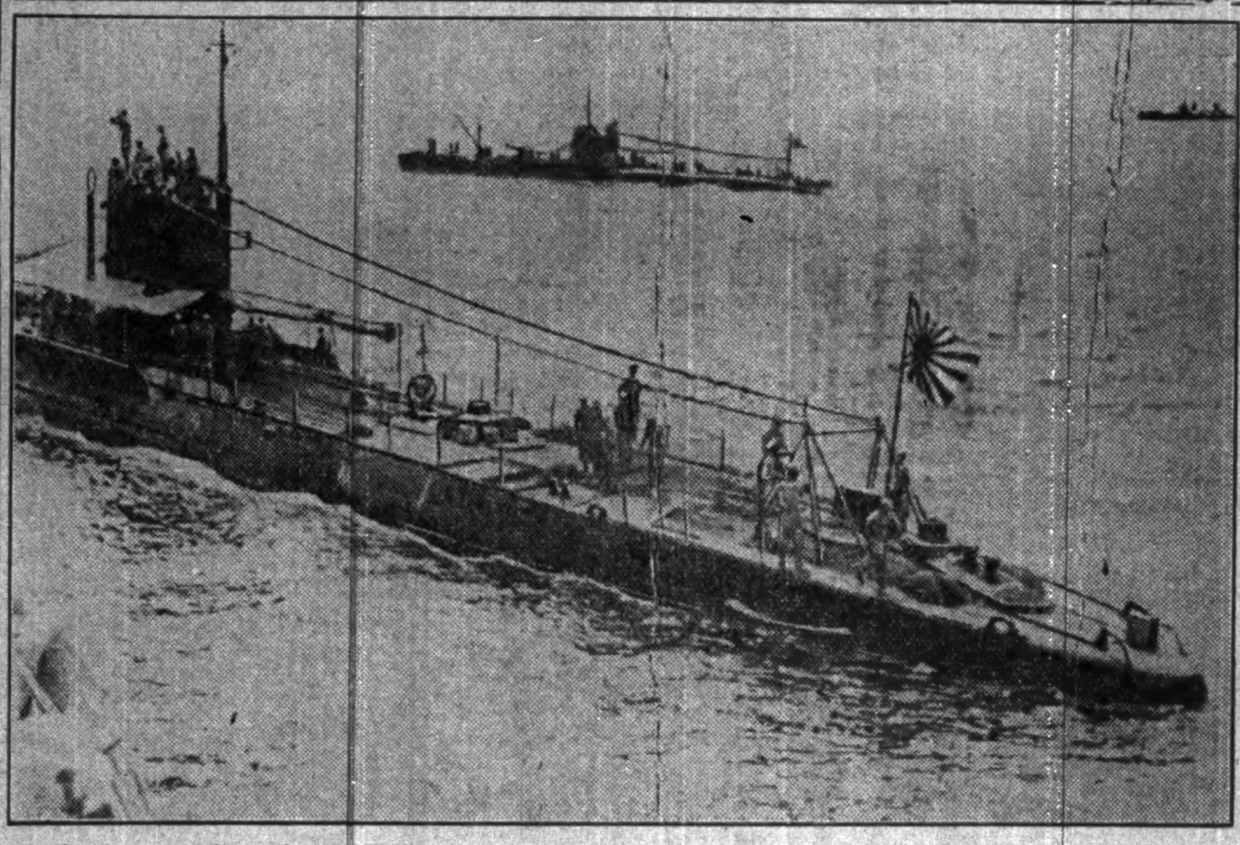
SHANGHAI, February 25.—Concluding a fortnight's visit in India, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek last night returned to Chungking by plane from Calcutta, it was reported here from Chungking.

Another U.S. Tanker Sunk

D.N.B.

BUENOS AIRES, February 25.—The U.S. tanker "City Service" of 8,103 tons has been torpedoed off the Atlantic coast as was announced by the naval department in Washington. In the meantime 29 members of the crew reached the coast of the United States.

Valiant Japanese Sea Raiders



As the vaunted sea, land and air might of America stood helpless, a unit of the Imperial Submarine Fleet, bombarded the Californian coast in daring defiance. Such is the valor of our fighting forces that flings the vainglorious mutterings of American leaders, right back in their mouths. (Censored by the Navy Ministry. No. 571)

'Where Was U.S. Army and Navy When California Coast Attacked!'

Spectacular Feat of Lone Submarine Seen Ironic—Strict Censorship on American Repercussions

In order to find out the repercussions of the spectacular attack on the American mainland by a lone submarine of the Imperial Navy, so spectacular that even President Roosevelt had to admit the daring spirit of the Japanese, the Nichi Nichi office telephoned its correspondent in Buenos Aires on Wednesday.

Tokyo: Please tell us the general reaction of the public regarding the bombardment of the Pacific Coast by the Japanese submarine.

Buenos Aires: It was ironic rather than startling because the attack was carried out just at the very moment when President Roosevelt was whining over the incapability of sending aid since the warfront is so far away. The attack completely contradicted his statement as if to say: "No, Mr. President, you are wrong. The warfront is under your very nose."

Tokyo: The telegram does not disclose the exact spot at which the attack was carried out, simply stating that it was in the vicinity of Santa Barbara, California. Can you give us some information in this respect?

Buenos Aires: Some of the newspapers here say it was Santa Barbara, but others are of the opinion that Monita was shelled. Personally, I think the latter is correct because Monita, situated in the southern suburbs of Los Angeles, is crammed with military establishments, large oil tanks, etc. It is not very far from the naval port of San Pedro.

Tokyo: Then why did not the Americans open fire from the naval base?

Buenos Aires: According to an eyewitness account of the daring attack the submarine was only a mile out at sea when it bombarded the coast so that the range was too short for the enemy battery at the fortress. Moreover, a glance at the map shows that the spot where the submarine made its appearance is on the other side of the mountain from where the fortress is located.

The eye-witness further revealed that the submarine was so big that, to his knowledge, it looked like a cruiser. His description should be fairly correct and reliable for the firing, he said, started toward 7 p.m. (daylight saving time) and continued for 30 minutes.

The Americans are very strict in censoring outgoing information so that the announcement only carried a part in which it said that the damage was negligible. However, in view of the numerous oil tanks, it is certain that fires were caused.

Tokyo: Please tell us the repercussions of the American public.

Buenos Aires: Nothing is available in that connection as the censors "killed" all such reports but I can vividly picture the consternation and confusion caused by the sudden bombardment of the American mainland, particularly in Los Angeles and Hollywood.

Whether the object of the bombardment was Monita or Santa Barbara, both are located in Southern California, where hundreds of oil tanks are located.

Tokyo: Is there any pipe-line through which oil is supplied?

Buenos Aires: There is no transcontinental pipe-line but there is one between Los Angeles and San Francisco. The oil pipes are more or less easier to handle since it is possible to shut off the supply by closing the valves, but there is another thing that proves to be the source of apprehension to the Americans. This is the water main.

The whole of Los Angeles originally was a vast desert and consequently, the water to the city is supplied by two large mains, one from the Owens River in the Sierra Nevada Range some 350 kilometers long and another, from the Colorado River which is about 420 kilometers away. The water is siphoned over the mountain range so that one single hit on the main will completely cut off the supply to the city.

Tokyo: What are the other military establishments in the vicinity?

Buenos Aires: There are about 15 or 16 airplane manufacturing plants within 10 kilometers of Los Angeles, including such universally known plants as the Douglas, Lockheed, Northrop, North-American and others.

Tokyo: Are they all located along the coast?

Buenos Aires: The Lockheed plant is the farthest from the coast but even that is only about 10 kilometers away; others are all along the coast or a few kilometers away.

Tokyo: What is the reaction of the Latin-American countries to the sudden blitz-attack?

Buenos Aires: The people are simply spellbound at the news. The effect was all the more great for they had been constantly worrying over the repeated activities of the German U-boats. Chile, lying along the Pacific Coast, must be particularly worried and this is one of the reasons why the American censors are suppressing the outgoing news.

MUST SHUN POLITICS, NIPPON WOMEN TOLD

Mesdames Chiang and Roosevelt Should Not Be Emulated, Says Famous Educator

At the meeting of the Central Cooperative Council held at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Mrs. Tomiko Kora, a famous educator, pointed out the true mission of the Japanese women, warning them not to poke their noses in politics as did Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt and Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek. Mrs. Kora's speech was as follows;

"The whole world must be looking forward to the outcome of the coming election in our country because it is the first time for a nation in such a large-scale war to hold an election. It is most necessary, therefore, for us Japanese women to do our best to help make the election campaign a success.

"However, I should like to warn all the Japanese women not to take part in the active movement. If women waste time in the election movement and neglect their household duties, it will become a nuisance to the stability of the home front and finally will badly influence the national situation. We should never follow the examples of Mrs. Roosevelt or Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek. This kind of activity is not befitting Japanese womanhood.

"The Diet is a working place of men and men only. It is, of course, true that women must be well aquainted with politics and economics, but it is

(Continued on Page 2)

Los Angeles Agog As New Air Scare Terrifies Citizens

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, February 25.—Anti-aircraft batteries in Los Angeles, California, went into action early this morning when unidentified planes were sighted in the beams of searchlights, according to a Los Angeles report received here today. The planes, the report stated, immediately flew off in a southerly direction.

ALLIED VICTORY IS SEEN ONLY IN OFFENSIVE WAR

Domei

LISBON, February 25.—Reviewing the Allied war position, Dr. Herbert Evatt, Australian Foreign Minister, today declared: "In sea, land and air operations the Japanese have covered so wide a field in such a rapid time with such important strategic consequences that, without doubt, Japan's war activities constitute a gigantic threat to the fortunes of anti-Axis Powers throughout the world."

Mr. Evatt warned that war could be won only by taking the offensive, a report from Canberra said.

Revealing Australian dissatisfaction with the Allied war command, the Foreign Minister disclosed that Australia has protested against the Washington-London plan for unified command in the southwestern Pacific on the grounds that Australia has not been given fair representation under the plan.

GERMANS CARRY OUT BIG-SCALE ATTACKS

Luftwaffe Harass Sebastopol, North Africa, Malta and British Isles

Domei

BERLIN, February 25.—The Luftwaffe carried out attacks on a wide front yesterday, ranging from Sebastopol, in Crimea, to the North African front and to waters surrounding the British Isles, the High Command announced today.

Many fires were observed to break out in Sebastopol and a Soviet cruiser in the harbor was said to have been hit several times.

Two large merchantmen, in a British convoy near the British Isles, were bombed beyond repair last night when a strong formation of German bombers attacked the convoy.

Malta, British stronghold in the Mediterranean, which has so far withstood countless air raids, again was bombed by German warplanes yesterday, and a number of high caliber bombs were dropped on submarine anchorages in Valetta harbor, the communique stated.

During an attempted British air attack against German territory last night, German fighter planes shot down three enemy bombers.

Tsurumi Gets Saigon Post

Ken Tsurumi, former Consul-General at Singapore, who came home shortly after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia from Singapore, was appointed Consul-General at Saigon Wednesday, it was officially announced by the Foreign Office the same day.

EXCUSES ON DEFEAT GIVEN BY CHURCHILL BEFORE PARLIAMENT

More Reverses Hinted as Singapore Debacle Explained In Lower House

ADMITS JAPAN'S BLOWS

Threat to British Isles, Libya Said Imminent—Inability to Send Aid Abroad Told

Asahi Service

STOCKHOLM, February 25.—During the course of his speech in the Lower House, Winston Churchill, the British Prime Minister, touched on the general war situation, revealing the possibility of further reverses, and concluded his address by offering explanations for the crushing defeat of the British forces which led to the fall of Singapore. The substance of his speech is to the following effect:

"The Japanese operations in East Asia are proving to be great blows to the Anglo-American Powers, creating a completely new situation. The Pearl Harbor debacle and the loss of two British capital ships off Malaya gives Japan an upperhand at least in the East Asiatic warfronts.

"On the other hand, Britain must fight Germany with all available power in the Atlantic while equally strenuous efforts are needed in preparing for the forthcoming German drive on the British Isles and to stave off the Italo-German offensive on the Libyan front. To add to our plight, all vessels transporting munitions and other war requisites to northern Africa are obliged to detour around the Cape of Good Hope as the Mediterranean Sea has been exposed to extreme danger.

"During the course of the past two months, Britain lost a large number of warships and merchantmen due chiefly to the fact that destroyers and other lighter classes of warships are separated from the fleet to convoy commercial vessels.

"Detailed reports concerning the battle over Singapore are not yet at hand and consequently, I am not in a position to shed further light in this connection. I can state, however, that the dispatch of more reinforcements to the East Asiatic fronts was not possible because there is every reason to believe that the next object of German operation is the British Isles and also due to the imminent advance of the Italo-German forces into Egypt.

British at Disadvantage

"With the outbreak of the war with Japan, the British position has been jeopardized several fold. The Japanese Forces in the southwestern Pacific can be shifted much speedier than the Anglo-American forces and, moreover, the supply of munitions and provisions is much easier. Furthermore, the British forces were inferior numerically. The mastery of the air and sea is completely in the hands of the Japanese and it will doubtless prove extremely difficult and involve highest sacrifice for Britain to recover her former position in East Asia.

"A certain man, who escaped from Penang, stated indignantly that there was not one single high-angle gun on the island. I want to ask him this question: 'What will be the consequences if Britain were to send anti-aircraft guns out of a limited number to a comprehensive area in East Asia instead of keeping them to protect factories in Britain which are exposed to constant danger and to safeguard the important bases in North Africa?

"In spite of these adverse conditions, the Government, in December last year, managed to send 40,000 men and an innumerable number of high-angle guns and tanks to Singapore from an important base elsewhere. The Government underwent particular pains in sending additional airplanes from other important fronts.

"When these reinforcements reached Singapore, however, it was too late. The fortress then was already blasted by the Japanese Air Units and consequently, they proved to be of no avail. Singapore was a fortress constructed chiefly to stave off an attack from the sea rather than from land. It was therefore essential to acquire complete command of the sea and air in order to guard the island.

"The loss of Singapore is indeed a regrettable incident but a fact which, nevertheless, must be faced. Britain today is confronted with a grave danger and what is more, we must be prepared for further setbacks which may be forthcoming in future. In the face of such a crisis, it was inevitable to effect a reshuffle in the Cabinet personnel but the newly appointed men, I dare say, are all competent to discharge their respective duties.

"In concluding my speech, I wish to inform all those present that the British invitation to dispatch a representative to the conference of the newly created Pacific Military Council has been accepted by General Chiang Kai-shek."

Speech Unimportant

Domei

BERLIN, February 25.—Commenting on Prime Minister Winston Churchill's latest speech in the British House of Commons, Wilhelmstrasse quarters today declared the statement to be unimportant from a political as well as

(Continued on Page 2)

68 MORE AIRCRAFT SMASHED IN FURIOUS RAIDS ON JAVA; SKY BATTLE OVER SURABAYA

Faced With Destruction

The harbor of Batavia, capital of the Dutch East Indies, that has been the target of Japanese planes during the past few days. (By courtesy of the Army Air Headquarters)

Fatal Blow Dealt on Remaining Enemy Air Force

NAVAL BASE BLASTED

Domei

CERTAIN BASE, February 25.—Renewing their devastating bombing raids against Java Island, Japanese Army aircraft yesterday carried out their sixth and seventh assaults upon the western part of the island, where the Japanese either shot down or destroyed 68 enemy planes, thereby inflicting a fatal blow to the remaining enemy air force.

Strong formations of bombers and fighters of the Japanese Army Air Force, after driving away eight challenging enemy planes, at 10:30 a.m. roared over the Bandoeng airfield and bombed and set fire to six enemy aircraft, including two super-large planes and one large plane. Nineteen others, including one super-large plane and five large machines, were also destroyed by the Japanese. The Japanese fighters shot down five enemy planes.

Meanwhile, separate bomber and fighter formations of the Japanese visited the Kalidjatic airdrome shortly before 11 a.m. the same day, setting ablaze 10 enemy aircraft, including seven large planes, and destroying 10 large and five small machines by heavy machine-gun fire.

At 5:30 p.m. waves of Japanese bombers and fighters stormed the Tjililitan airfield, burning hangars and one large and three small planes on the ground as well as blasting four other small craft.

The Japanese fighter units during the attack encountered 10 enemy Hurricanes northwest of Buitenzorg, bringing down one of them.

About the same time, another formation of Japanese bombers and fighters swarmed over the Batavia seaplane base where the Japanese blew up two planes and scored direct hits upon one light cruiser and two 3,000 tonners.

The Japanese fighters on their way back encountered and shot down one four-motored flying boat and one two-motored flying boat.

Surabaya Base Raided

Domei

LISBON, February 24.—Large formations of Japanese planes suddenly appeared from two different directions over Surabaya yesterday and subjected the naval base to intensive bombardment in spite of anti-aircraft fire from the defenders, according to a Batavia report received here today.

Planes of the Allied air force rose up to meet the Japanese fighters and fierce aerial duels occurred over the city, it was said.

Weakness Admitted

Special to the Yomiuri

ZURICH, February 24.—Tjarda Starkenborgh Stachouwer, Governor-General of the Netherlands East Indies, is frankly recognizing the weak military defense of the Netherlands East Indies against Japan's attack, and is only hoping for effective aid from the United States and the British Empire. In an interview given to the United Press correspondent at Batavia, the Governor-General remarked as follows:

"Japan's attack on the Netherlands

(Continued on Page 2)

Shipyard Men on Strike

Domei

VICHY, February 25.—Protesting against an institution of the 10-hour day schedule, 3,500 employes of the Bethlehem dockyards in San Pedro, California, ceased work today, a New York dispatch quoting a report from San Pedro revealed here today.

LONDON IS WORRIED BY INDIAN PROBLEM

Agitation Gaining Ground in Parliament for Change of British Policy

CHIANG'S VISIT DISCUSSED

Urges Time Now Ripe With Cabinet Reshuffle to Take Action

Domei

LISBON, February 24.—Agitation is increasing in the British Parliament for the reformation of British policies toward India in an effort to gain India's close collaboration with Great Britain in prosecuting the war, according to a Reuters' report received here from London today.

While lively discussions are going on in London political circles regarding Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's meetings with Indian leaders, uneasiness prevails in Parliament concerning future war developments affecting the position of India.

Parliamentary quarters are urging that since the British Cabinet reorganization has just been completed it is a propitious occasion for the Government to change its London policy, it was said.

India Problem Grave

Asahi Service

BUENOS AIRES, February 23.—With the fall of Singapore, the defense of India has become a grave problem for the British Empire, and the British policy toward India is drawing world attention.

The first problem for the British Government concerning India is the difficulty in making the Indian people positively participate in the defense of India. Yet the defense of India is not only important for the British Empire but also for the entire Allies. It is because of this situation that the British defeat in East Asia is causing Great Britain serious worry.

Thus, it is now generally observed that the British policy toward India is bound to be changed. Information reaching here from London and other sources indicate that British Premier Winston Churchill is now intending to dispatch a Cabinet member to India to solve the Indian problem by expanding the promise of freedom already given India, so that the East Asiatic situation would be improved with the pacification of the Indian people.

The recent appointment of Sir Richard Stafford Cripps as Lord Privy Seal is regarded to be closely connected with this Indian question. It is said that in accepting the new post, Sir Richard made it a condition that the British Government would come to an understanding with the Indian leaders on the Government policy to India.

It is also reported that Sir Richard remarked that the British Secretary of State for Air, Sir Archibald James M. St. Clair Sinclair, will be sent to India to carry out the new British policy of allowing the establishment of a National Government of India to be head-

(Continued on Page 2)

EAST ASIA WARFARE COSTLY FOR BRITISH

Eight Per Cent of Total Investments Already Lost With Amount Increasing

LARGEST STAKE IN INDIA

American Losses Seen Comparatively Small—Cutting Off Of Supply Source Hurts

The loss of British capital invested in Asia suffered owing to the War of Greater East Asia has so far reached £380,000,000, which is equivalent to about 8 per cent of all the investments made by Britain in the world, it was recently calculated by the Economic Research Institute of Berlin headed by Dr. Wagemann, according to an Asahi special dispatch from the German capital on Wednesday.

At the time of the outbreak of the current European hostilities, the survey claims, Britain had invested throughout the world a sum of £4,500,000,000, which is now being gradually lost in her losing battles. Of £380,000,000 believed to have been lost in East Asia, £230,000,000 had been invested in both Japan and China, and £150,000,000 in other countries in eastern Asia.

As the War of Greater East Asia expands to India, Britain will further lose £1,200,000,000 invested in that country, which will boost up its loss in the war to 25 per cent of its total investments in the world, says the survey, adding that the expected loss will also include many other assets uncountable in terms of pounds.

Regarding the United States' loss in the same war, the Institute's statistics reveal that it is less than that of Britain. At the end of 1939, American investments in all its territorial possessions in the Pacific amounted in value to $1,000,000,000, equivalent to 9 per cent of the entire foreign investments in the United States. Of the American money expended in Asia, about $250,000,000 in the Philippines is about all that the United States has lost in the current war.

Apart from the monetary loss, the statistics point out, Britain has already suffered a great deal in that it can no longer obtain goods in East Asia on which the dollar exchange has been acquired, because Malay rubber and tin cannot be procured by the country now. In 1941, the American purchase of the dollar exchange reached £1,295,000,000, of which £300,000,000 was acquired on the strength of the exports of Malay rubber and tin.

In view of the growing necessity of buying more war materials from the United States, the dwindling funds now left available for the dollar purchase is practically limited to its investments in the African mines and the South American railways.

Under the prevailing circumstances, the economic position of Britain will be gradually lowered and it will soon be obliged to give up the larger part of its territorial possession to pay for the materials to be imported from the United States.

MILITARISTS OPPOSE COUP BY BALDOMIR

President's Action Branded as Desperate Move to Turn Nation Pro-American

Domei

LISBON, February 24.—Commenting on the resignation of General Pedro Sicco, Uruguayan Chief-of-Staff, political quarters asserted today that a preponderant majority of Uruguay's military faction is opposed to the recent coup d'etat maneuvered by President Alfredo Baldomir, it was disclosed here today from Montevideo.

These circles declared that the statement by President Baldomir, that he will prevent any counter-moves by Dr. Cesar Charlone, is an indication of a rift which has existed between the two executives from the outset of their administration.

The Baldomir coup d'etat, which was unconstitutional, was a desperate move to transform Uruguay wholly to the pro-American camp, it was asserted.

With the troops under the command of President Baldomir, no incidents have occurred so far, despite the tense situation prevailing in Montevideo, the report revealed.

Tension Still Exists

D.N.B.

LISBON, February 24.—The majority of Uruguayan militarists do not agree with the coup d'etat carried out by President Baldomir, according to reports from Montevideo emanating in connection with the resignation of the Uruguayan Chief of the General Staff, Pedro Sicco.

These circles are of the opinion that the attitude of the militarists can still be of importance. It is pointed out at the same time that President Baldomir had announced that he would suppress any attempt carried out by Vice-President Cesar Charlone, which announcement can be considered significant since it reveals that the Vice-President had not agreed with the President's plan from the very beginning. Baldomir's plans involved the pro-American attitude shown by him during the Rio Conference. In addition, of course, Baldomir's coup d'etat was a breach of the Constitution.

The President furthermore announced, in order to calm the opposition and to popularize his new State reform, that his new council was merely to act as a supporter of the Executive and in preparation of the constitutional reform. The opposition, headed by Herrera, on the other hand, maintained that President Baldomir was already outside the democratic constitution of Uruguay by his decree creating a State Council.

News reports arriving in Lisbon from Montevideo are scarce on account of the strict censorship, but those which do arrive, however, indicate that some sort of tension is still existing although incidents have not yet occurred. The troops are being held in readiness for any emergency.

JAPANESE PRESS COMMENTS

Thursday, February 26

YOMIURI—Japanese Submarines Attack U.S. Continent
NICHI NICHI—United States Horrified
ASAHI—Submarine Attack on U.S. Coast
CHUGAI SHOGYO—Oil Resources in Southern Regions

Japanese Submarine Attacks U.S. Continent

YOMIURI

Almost at the very time President Roosevelt was delivering his pathetically apologetic fireside chat on the night of February 24, a unit of our submarine force made its daring appearance in waters off the Californian coast and shelled the vicinity of Santa Barbara.

Since American participation in the war, German submarines operating in the Atlantic Ocean near the United States coast have been threatening U.S. navigation and have already sunk a large number of transports. On the Pacific Ocean, the submarine force of the Imperial Navy attacked the west coast of the United States almost simultaneously with the opening of the war and on January 12 they sank the world largest U.S., aircraft carrier Lexington in waters west of Hawaii. Besides, they have either sunk or damaged a great number of American vessels in waters near the U.S. mainland, thus causing a serious blow to the enemy. The shelling of the vicinity of Santa Barbara by our submarine is the first direct attack ever made on the United States continent and the Americans are undoubtedly learning how it feels to be subjected to attack.

Secretary of Navy Frank Knox, explaining the American naval expansion program, declared recently that, since there are two vast oceans between the United States and Japan, Germany and Italy, the defense of the American continent was quite secure. The American public undoubtedly felt reassured at this statement of Secretary Knox, but their sense of safety is now dispelled by the daring attack of our submarine.

As it is generally known, following the destruction of its Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, the United States Navy transferred a portion of its Atlantic Fleet to the Pacific. In reply to public criticism against the inactivity of the Pacific Fleet, the naval authorities declared that the most urgent task imposed on the U.S. Navy was to keep the American continent safe from enemy attacks, adding that fresh offensive by the U.S. Navy would be launched on a large scale as soon as a new fleet is formed next year. Despite this statement by the U.S. naval authorities, the daring submarine of the mighty Imperial Navy closed in on the vicinity of the great American naval base at San Diego, and fiercely shelled the coast. No matter how Secretary Knox and other naval authorities try to explain, what was meant by the "greatest navy in the world" boasted by the Washington Government must be very clear now to the American public.

United States Horrified

NICHI NICHI

The daring attack of the Imperial Navy submarine on the coast of California struck great terror into the hearts of the American people. Since the founding of the United States of America, its mainland has never been shelled by foreign forces. Moreover, nobody dreamed of the happening of such an event. Declaring the shelling of the Californian coast a political strategy of the Axis aiming at the disturbance of public sentiment, President Roosevelt has urged the people to guard themselves against such a strategy. Political effects of this incident on the Americans will be quite immeasurable. No matter how strictly they guard and defend themselves, they must know that even worse incidents of similar nature will occur in the future. This is entirely different from the intimidation they used to employ against this country before the opening of the current war. They have no actual power to put their intimidation into practise, but we have.

The daring activities of the mighty Imperial Navy carried out all the way across the vast ocean 6,000 nautical miles away are indeed matchless in world naval operations. While German submarines are known to have been operating all along the American Atlantic coast, operating in the Caribbean Sea and exposing the eastern coast of the United States to imminent danger, the safety of navigation in the west coast is now thrown into utter confusion as the result of our submarine activities. Thus a counter-blockade on the United States has steadily been tightened.

In view of the above situation, it is utterly impossible for the United States to take charge of the defense of all American continents. Trust of Central and South American countries in the United States will gradually be shaken and their solidarity will become more difficult than ever. For the United States, on top of its political and economic unrest, the question of defense of its mainland has now become an imminent issue.

Submarine Attack on U.S. Coast

ASAHI

Shelling military establishments on the Californian coast on February 24, an Imperial Navy submarine caused a great shock to the Americans. Throughout the first and second world wars, it was the first time the United States continent was subjected to a direct attack. We can easily imagine the seriousness of its mental effect.

The American foreign policy has always been backed by the over-confidence in its superior force, which finally led the United States to entertain the erroneous belief that its superior force would be able to control the world situation as it wished. In his various speeches, President Roosevelt openly declared that the United States must police the world for the maintenance of peace. In his address on November 1 last year, Secretary of Navy Frank Knox openly stated that by the joint forces of the United States and Britain the peace and order of the world must be maintained in various waters.

The European policy of the United States based on such superiority complex intensified the crisis existing between Germany and Britain and France, which finally led to the outbreak of the European War. In its East Asiatic policy, the United States Government entertained a similar superiority idea and dogmatically believed that Japan would be unable to resist the mighty U.S. Navy. This was clearly reflected in its high-handed policy and insolent policy during the Japanese-American negotiations which preceded the War of Greater East Asia.

In other words, over-confidence of the United States in its military strength was the cause for the outbreak of the European War and the War of Greater East Asia. Since the opening of the war in December last, however, the United States Navy and Army forces have been suffering a series of defeats and its continent is now subjected to our attack.

According to an announcement by the German High Command on February 21, German submarines sank a total of 80 American merchantmen, aggregating 532,900 tons, in waters close to the U.S. continent. Submarines of the Imperial Navy, too, have been carrying out daring activities on the Pacific. We, however, failed to note counter-attacks by the United States Navy against these German and Japanese submarine activities. According to reports, our submarine made its appearance and pounded the area for nearly 25 minutes discharging approximately 20 shells.

We wonder what became of the "superior" force of the United States. Where was the U.S. Navy and Army in which 130,000,000 citizens of the United States placed their confidence? We see the reply to this in the fireside chat of President Roosevelt on the very night of our submarine attack, in which he said the U.S. Navy and Army have been exerting themselves both for offense and defense. Their best efforts have brought about such a result. In other words, the so-called "superior" Navy and Army of the United States are no match against the Japanese Army and Navy even with their best efforts. This is high time for the American public to awaken from their disillusion.

Oil Resources in Southern Regions

CHUGAI SHOGYO

One of the important objectives of the War of Greater East Asia is the securing of oil resources in the Netherlands East Indies as was made clear in our note handed to the United States last year. Securing a large quantity of oil already in Hongkong, Malaya and Borneo, the Imperial Forces have been exerting themselves to the utmost for the restoration and repairing of oil fields and refineries in the occupied areas. With the occupation of Palembang, a key strategic point and oil production center in Sumatra, the first step toward the solution of the oil question in this country is now seen as the annual oil production in the Palembang area occupies 67 per cent of the total output in Sumatra. Since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, nearly 65 per cent of the total oil production in British and Dutch Borneo as well as in the Netherlands East Indies has been taken over by the Imperial Forces.

As for the oil policy in the occupied area, utmost efforts must be exerted for the restoration and repairing of oil fields and refineries in those regions, which we believe quite possible by our superior scientific technique. Furthermore, measures for oil self-sufficiency in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere must be formulated by this country, for the present amount of production is insufficient to meet the demand within the Sphere. While encouraging the synthetic oil industry in the country, regulations on its consumption must strengthened further by the Government.

Excuses on Defeat Given by Churchill Before Parliament

(Continued From Page 1)

military viewpoint.

The Prime Minister's latest utterances have been regarded by these quarters as rather weak and seem to reflect doubts and uncertainty.

Prime Minister Churchill also attempted to persuade the Lower House that the new British setbacks were only provisional, these quarters declared.

Meantime, Wilhelmstrasse quarters significantly pointed out that while President Roosevelt has continued to stick to his statement minimizing Pearl Harbor losses, Prime Minister Churchill has admitted the "disastrous consequences of the Japanese attack against the harbor."

Press Vitriolic

The Berlin Wednesday evening press is still dealing with Churchill's speech in the House of Commons. Thus, the Berliner Boersenzeitung writes: "The method, practiced by Churchill, namely to refer to former mistakes in order to excuse himself and to prepare the British public for further catastrophes and, moreover, saying exactly the opposite from what he had said a month ago is a method which no other people than the British could stand for with the exception, probably, of the Yankees. Churchill really must think that he is speaking to an audience of political illiterates."

The Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung emphasized the contradiction between Churchill's former and his present statement regarding U.S. assistance. It is pointed out that in his latest speech, Churchill said that the U.S. armament industry was still in its "initial stage" while the same Churchill on June 30, 1941, declared "America is granting us their assistance to a gigantic extent".

London Is Worried By Indian Problem

(Continued From Page 1)

ed by Pandhi Jawaharlal Nehru, former president of the Indian National Congress.

It seems that this plan also includes a proposal of establishing provincial governments formed by the members of Indian National Congress and local officials to replace the present administration by British High Commissioners.

However, Indian leaders are strongly demanding that if the British Government desires that India take up arms for defending the British Empire, they must substantially change the policy toward India.

Meanwhile, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's visit to India is also watched with much attention. Not only has General Chiang tried to draw India into the anti-Japanese resistance front in his interview with the Indian leaders, but also he is alleged to have supported India's political demand.

General Chiang urged the Indians to join the anti-Japanese front, but his visit did not gain the desired results as India is not in the position to help Chungking without the sanction of the British Government.

In this connection, General Chiang's statement to the Indian said: "I believe and hope that the British Government will give real political power to India instantly without waiting for India's demand, and that the day will soon come when India will extend spiritual and material cooperation for aiding the anti-Axis nations."

It is reported that some Indian leaders resolved to support General Chiang and also to demand the participation of Indian representatives in the British Cabinet.

MUST SHUN POLITICS, NIPPON WOMEN TOLD

(Continued From Page 1)

not for women to participate in the actual political movement. Women should be more alive to the traditional duties of Japanese womanhood and back up the men for a successful execution of the coming election."

Sung Mei-ling Boss

While Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the American President, is quite a problem for Congressmen as a result of her meddling in State affairs, Sung Mei-ling, second wife of General Chiang Kai-shek, is a better example of the old Oriental adage that it is not men, but women, who cause calamities to the State, a Yomiuri report from Shanghai stated, in describing the meddlesome activities of Mrs. Chiang in Chungking.

Despite the fact the American educated Mrs. Chiang, an alumna of the Wellesley College, is eight years younger than Mrs. Roosevelt, the 58-year-old wife of President Roosevelt is no match in politics for the crafty wife of the Chungking head.

Since her marriage with General Chiang, Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek has been his inseparable companion, both in his private and official affairs, and it was stated that she is a good example of the Oriental saying that it is not men, but women, who cause calamities to the State.

In this connection, it is alleged that if it had not been for Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek, there would have been no China Affair and consequently, no War of Greater East Asia. She leads such an officious existence that as one American writer described her once, she would go anywhere, do anything and is much more meddlesome in "sticking her nose" in administrative affairs than the wife of the United States President.

Chiang Merely Voice

According to the vernacular, Mrs. Chiang Kai-shek is now in India with her husband to whom she is private secretary, interpreter, adviser. Very often she is a prop supporting the much emaciated General in overcoming his constant worry about the imminent fall of the Chungking citadel.

As everyone knows, the paper stated, General Chiang is now engrossed in his historic mission of trying to pull one of the two factions in India into his camp in order to have a new supply route established for Chungking to replace the now disrupted Burma route. It does not make any difference whether he sides with the independence movement group in India or the faction favoring the British rule there, the correspondent avers, for Chiang will most probably join hands with any faction, which will promise him support in building the new supply route.

Throughout Chiang's visits of various centers in India, Mrs. Chiang has constantly accompanied him as inseparably as the shadow follows a man.

While the social formalities at the parleys held between Chiang and the Indian leaders were carried out smoothly by Mrs. Chiang who is a gifted society woman, there are even decisions concerning military and economic matters which are made by Mrs. Chiang, although the fomal discussion is made nominally by Chiang.

Under the circumstances, it is nearer the truth to say that all these formal statements published at Calcutta and New Delhi which are credited to Chiang may have originated from Mrs. Chiang.

Mrs. Chiang, now in her 50th year, is reported to have lost much of her old feminine beauty due, it is said, to the years of anxiety and worry over the fate of the Chungking regime.

Her personality has been admired by the Indians and it is said that Mahatma Gandhi recently made a present of a spinning wheel to her. Although the significance of this present has not yet been clearly explained, Mrs. Chiang is reported to have been overjoyed with the odd present from Mahatma Gandhi.

Mei-ling Very Active

Mrs. Chiang worked in the past in various fields of activity to uphold the Chungking cause. Once she devoted much effort as a leader of the movement to promote civilian aviation at Chungking. Last Christmas eve, she made a broadcast intended for the general public in the United States to solicit its aid to Chungking. It was at that time that imaginative American newspapermen described her activity as worth three Army divisions.

She was, it is remembered, the paper declared, the very woman who several years ago in cooperation with the British adviser, W. H. Donald, succeeded in having her husband released from imprisonment at Sian, where the General had been detained by the recalcitrant troops under General Chang Hsueh-liang, better known as the "Young Marshal." This release was effected on the condition that thereafter Chiang would cooperate closely with the Communist elements in China.

Thus, if it were not for Mrs. Chiang, Chiang Kai-shek would never have survived and the China Affair, which developed into the War of Greater East Asia, would not have occurred.

Formerly, it was the intention of Mrs. Chiang to plan many schemes in collaboration with her British and American friends residing in Chungking, including the former American Ambassador, Nelson T. Johnson, and ex-British Ambassador, Sir Archibald John Kerr Clark Kerr.

The only exception noted in this connection was the case of President Roosevelt's special envoy, Owen Lattimore, whose hurried return to America is asserted to have resulted from his dislike of Mrs. Chiang's personality. Now in view of the absence of any particular American or British friends, the woman politician at Chungking is believed to be feeling "blue" and quite helpless.

Diary of Commander Reveals Rigors Of Submarine Crew on Virgin Cruise

The Japanese submarines have played no little part in the success of the present war, but behind their sensational achievements lie the untold hardships of the crew, their terrible suspense, and silent endurance of unbearable heat and polluted air in the confined space of this sub-sea craft. Below are extracts from the diary of the Commander of one of the submarines, sent by a correspondent to the Asahi on February 25 from a certain base, giving an excellent idea of the activities of the submarine crew.

"We left our base early in the morning. The other submarine had left yesterday. We cruised solitarily into enemy territory, seeking for suitable prey. We were guarded part of the way by the Navy Air Force. The airmen waved their hands to us. We could not take our eyes from the surface of the ocean, for yesterday we had received reports of the presence of enemy submarines in this area. At 11:12 a.m. we discovered the periscope of an enemy submarine sticking out of the water about 650 meters to the north of us.

"I at once gave the order to fire, but the enemy submarine submerged, and dodging our missile, came straight for us. We waited for an opportunity to settle our sights on it, but the enemy submarine remained submerged, and we lost its whereabouts. The crew were all eager for battle, but we had a much more important duty before us, and could not waste our time on a single enemy submarine. We sped on southward, and toward evening we arrived at an air-base of the Imperial Navy, where we reported the presence of an enemy submarine in the vicinity. We continued our course. The sinking sun was all aglow, and the whole surface of the sea looked one vast mirror of fire. Onward we advanced, straight into enemy territory, glorying in the opportunity thus offered to us of offering up our lives in the service of our beloved country.

"The night was dark. We sped on, keeping the Southern Cross on the prow, and guiding our way by starlight. The sea was smooth as glass, and it was like gliding through a sea of oil. At two in the morning we received a message from Boat No. X that a submarine was cruising to the north of us. At the rate we were going, we were bound to meet the submarine at about five in the morning. This time we were determined not to miss the enemy, and completed all preparations in readiness for the coming battle. But we were disappointed. Reports came in that the seas here were always kept under vigilant watch by enemy planes. We resolved to break through enemy lines. We opened all the hatches and prepared for a long sub-sea cruise by purifying the interior of the submarine.

"Before we started, the Chief-Engineer came to the bridge and reported that the refrigerator was out of order. This was the worst thing that could happen to us on the tropic sea. Without the refrigerator, the temperature inside the submarine would be hellish. But we could not help it. We had to go on. So we forged ahead.

"By noon the temperature had gone up to 38 C. In the power-room it was 40 C. The humidity went up to more than 90 points, and the agony was indescribable. Every one of us stripped to the skin, the sweat poured down our backs in torrents. The carbon-dioxide gas that had accumulated made our senses reel.

"We received the report that an enemy battleship was close to us, and the crew seemed to revive. Everyone stuck silently to his post, only his eyes showing the glint of battle. We were too tired to smile even. Past noon, the temperature had gone over 40 C, and the humidity was more than 95 per cent.

"We waited anxiously for sight of the battleship. If we could but sink it, we would go through a hundred tortures worse than this. Everyone prayed in his heart that the battleship would appear soon.

"We headed for a certain island to launch a surprise attack. A squall was raging, and the visibility was very poor. At 8:30 a.m. we saw a thin trail of smoke on the horizon ahead of us. We approached and saw that it was a large merchant vessel heading for the port. As the squall subsided, we sank beneath the surface to escape detection, but another squall broke upon us immediately afterward. We, therefore, rose to the surface again, and pursued the merchant-vessel. The vessel was a British ship with a diesel engine, and was of the 10,000-ton class. It was fully armed ready to repulse any attacks.

"At 10:45 we approached sufficiently close to settle our sights on it. It was my first experience in sinking an enemy ship, and I felt myself going tense as I gave out the orders for the distance and direction to the gunners. The crew moved like greased lightning, all their fatigue forgotten. We fired only one torpedo, but it was enough. We counted 13 seconds before the sound of the detonation reached us.

"We rose to the surface, and opened the hatch. The enemy ship had tilted to one side and was sinking slowly. Several boats had been lowered, and the crew were making their escape. Those on the ship had noticed us, and were firing their guns at us. We swivelled round the surface-gun, and exchanged shots. In a few minutes the enemy ship had sunk beneath the surface of the sea. The enemy land-battery nearby located us, and their shells came whistling dangerously near the submarine. A submarine cannot exchange shots with a land-battery, so we sank below the surface, and sped on our way again, our past fatigues forgotten, the crew tense and alert, eager for more encounters with the enemy."

UKRAINIANS ARE WILLING TO COOPERATE WITH REICH

Form Special Organ for Work In Rehabilitating Destroyed Villages

Transocean

KIEV, February 12.—Various circles among the Ukrainian population have shown indications that they are ready and willing to participate in the reconstruction of the country and cooperate actively in this task.

The main objective is first to rebuild the destroyed villages.

Ukrainians have thus formed a special department within the Dopomha, the industrial and commercial cooperative association in Kiev, for promoting the rehabilitation of the destroyed villages.

It is understood that a section of the Ukraine will be selected for the erection of peasants' dwellings with burned clay bricks.

68 More Enemy Planes Smashed in Java Raids

(Continued from Page 1)

East Indies has become more severe, and even Java is now threatened with attack. For the honor of the Netherlands and our Queen, we are determined to fight to the end, but however we might desire to fight bravely, our military equipments are far inferior to the Japanese.

"Speedy reinforcements from the United States and the British Empire will only save us and lead us to victory. Great oil fields, bauxite deposits and big rubber plantations have all fallen into Japanese hands. To save Java, there are only our friends, the United States and the British Empire."

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Submarine Attack on California Completely Upsets U. S. Public

68 Enemy Planes Destroyed in Java Air Raids

LIGHT CRUISER HIT

A fatal blow was dealt to the remnants of the Anglo-Dutch Allied air force in Java by Imperial Army Air Units Tuesday in their repeated heavy attacks on the principal airfields. In these raids, 68 enemy planes were either shot down or destroyed on the ground, while many direct hits were scored on one enemy light cruiser and two 3,000-ton steamers, according to a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday. The communique reads:

"Imperial Army Air Units which have been carrying on the operations of annihilating the enemy air forces in western Java since February 19 launched heavy raids on Bandoeng, Buitenzorg, Tjililitan and Batavia airfields, which are all important air bases on Java Island, on February 24 to follow up similar raids on the previous day. In these raids, 68 enemy planes were either shot down or destroyed on the ground so that a fatal blow was dealt to the remaining Anglo-Dutch combined air forces. The Japanese Air Units which attacked the port of Batavia bombed a group of enemy ships heavily, many direct hits being scored on one light cruiser and two 3,000-ton steamers. In these operations, one Japanese plane was badly damaged."

SUCCESSIVE RAIDS WIPE OUT ENEMY AIR FORCES

Tjililitan airfield which was heavily bombed by Imperial Army Air Units Tuesday is located at a point about 10 kilometers southeast of Batavia. The field is 1,200 meters long and 1,000 meters wide. It is an excellent airfield. Its equipment consists of some fuel depositories and four big hangars. A Dutch bomber plane corps was stationed there prior to the outbreak of the present War of Greater East Asia.

As was announced by the Imperial Headquarters Tuesday, no fewer than 68 enemy planes were either shot down or destroyed on the ground by Japanese Army Air Units in their sixth raid on the principal airfields on Java Island. In the first and second air raids on Buitenzorg and Bandoeng on February 19, 43 enemy planes were destroyed, and in the third air raid on Kalidjati airfield on February 20, 27 more were accounted for. In the fourth raid on Kalidjati and Bandoeng airfields on February 21, 24 enemy planes were destroyed. The fifth raid was carried out on Batavia and Buitenzorg on February 22. Up to February 24, a total of 177 planes were either shot down or destroyed on the ground.

It is believed that the air strength of the Netherlands East Indies at the time of the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War comprised 100 fighter planes, 80 bombers, 20 scouting planes, and 120 other planes, making a total of some 350. It is certain that the Netherlands East Indies air force has been reinforced by over 100 planes from the United States and Britain, and it is supposed that its total strength was something like 450 planes until recently. In the operations in the area east of Batavia, however, the Netherlands East Indies has already lost over 170 planes. Now that the Netherlands East Indies air force has no hope of obtaining Anglo-American reinforcements, it is believed to have suffered a fatal blow.

NEW EMPLOYMENT BUREAU TO BE FORMED IN MANILA

Move to Push Reconstruction Work in Japanese Occupied Areas In P.I.

Domei

MANILA, February 26.—With the object of accelerating reconstruction of the Japanese occupied areas in the Philippines following the termination of hostilities, the Department of Education and Welfare of the Japanese Military Administration today ordered the Philippine Civil Administration to establish an employment bureau.

It is understood that a large-scale census of the unemployed will be conducted as soon as the new bureau is established.

It was announced simultaneously, that the fundamental daily wages of workers on a basis of eight hours have been fixed at 0.8 peso for unskilled laborers, 1.5 pesos for carpenters, and two pesos for experienced workers. It was added that facilities for the return to their homes in the country will be accorded those workers who are unable to earn a livelihood in this city.

HUGE LOSSES SUFFERED BY BRITISH AIR FORCE

8,593 Planes Destroyed by Germany Alone Since War Outbreak

Transocean

BERLIN, February 13.—Figures compiled by competent quarters here show that since the outbreak of the war until the end of December 1941, 8,593 British airplanes were destroyed by actions of the German forces.

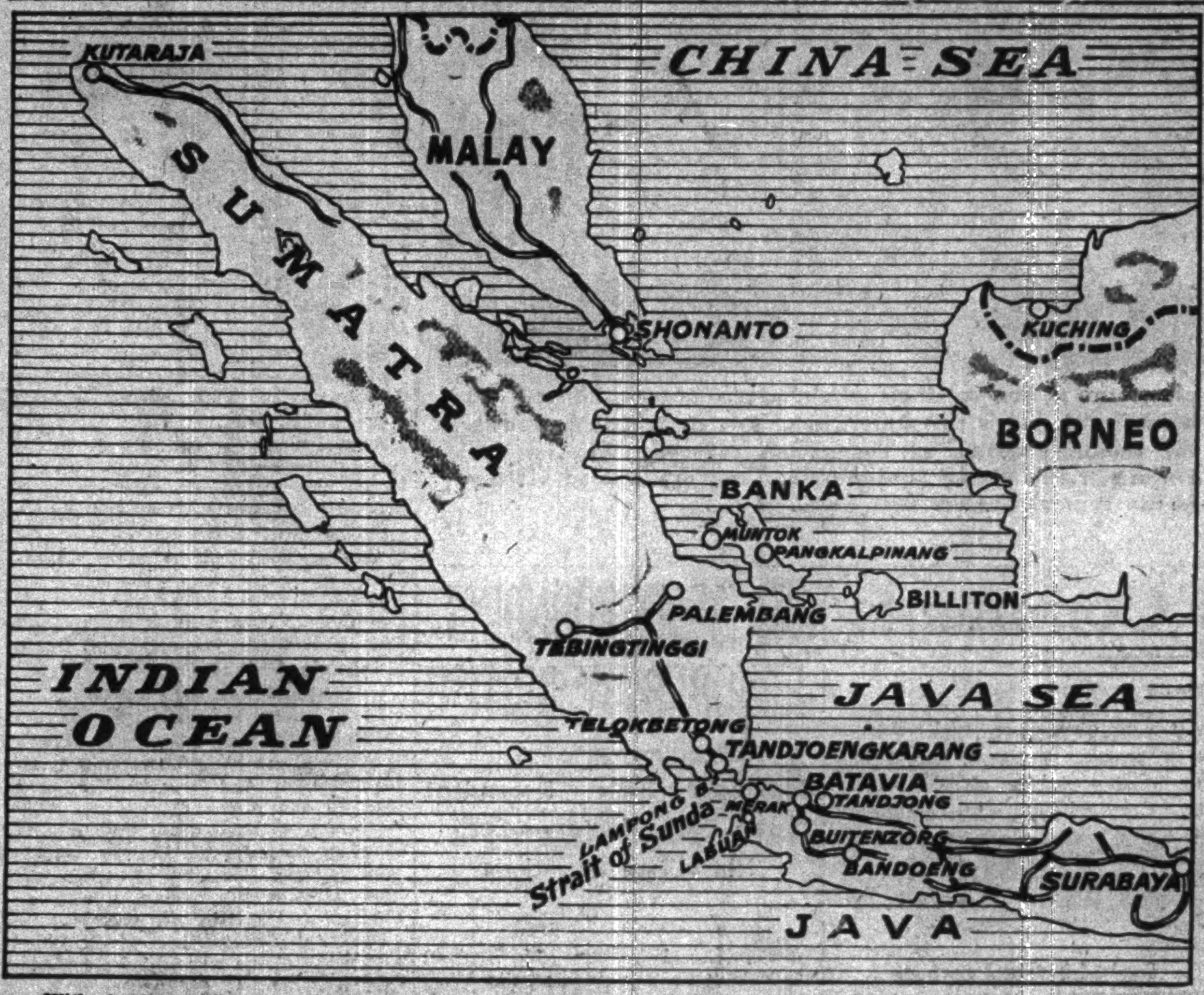
During the same period in the war against Britain, the German air force lost only 1,786 machines.

A total of 4,893 enemy planes was destroyed since the beginning of the war to the end of 1940 and another 3,700 machines in the course of last year.

The ratio of Italy's successes against England and her own losses is about the same as Germany's.

By this statement, any further discussion in Germany of figures issued by the British Minister of Air, Sir Archibald Sinclair, is superfluous, it was stated in competent circles.

Scene of Latest Japanese Victories



With the occupation and capture of the major enemy bases in the Pacific and in southern Asia, the scene of war operations has now narrowed down to this strip of islands forming the Netherlands East Indies. On February 21 and 22, the Japanese Air Force carried out a devastating air raid over the Bandoeng and Buitenzorg airfields in Java while the Japanese Forces sweeping down from Palembang have already taken Tandjoengkarang at the southeastern tip of Sumatra Island.

PREMIER TOJO ASKS EMPIRE SOLIDARITY

Over 200 Members of Central Cooperative Council Begin Two-Day Session

APRIL ELECTION MOOTED

Government Seeking General Reform of Domestic Structure on Wartime Basis

The Imperial Rule Assistance Association affiliate of the Government, under the presidency of Premier Hideki Tojo, now faces a supreme test. It is a test of its ability to be a positive aid to the Government in the execution of the national policy which is based on the principle of constructing a world order of stability and prosperity toward which vision the founder of the Empire lifted the Japanese people 2,602 years ago.

The Association, responding to the desire of the Government as expressed by Premier Tojo and reflected by many civic leaders of the nation, has decided to launch a nationwide drive to acquaint the people with the magnitude of the role they have to play in the revamping of the general domestic structure to make it possible to bring the War of Greater East Asia to a successful conclusion. Needless to say the aim of this great war is to contribute to the construction of a new world order by creating a sphere in which all the races inhabiting Greater East Asia will live in mutual prosperity, each of them in its proper and natural place.

Political Adjustment First

The question of reforming the general domestic structure is, as far as the immediate present is concerned, one of adjusting the political structure to permit it to meet the needs of the situation which finds the nation carrying on the world's biggest war, and the outcome of which will be a decisive factor in the realization of the ideal for which the Japanese have been striving for more than 2,000 years.

It is to the construction of the sort of political structure demanded by the situation confronting the country at the moment—a period testing Japan's power—that the Rule Aid Society will turn its attention until April 30 when a general election, the first in five years during which events have changed the whole aspect of not only East Asia but the entire world, will be held.

The task the Society has set itself to accomplish is to influence the nation's 100 000,000 people into taking an active and keen interest in returning a new

(Continued on Page 2)

To Stress True War Aims

The Central Association of Overseas Japanese (Kaigai Dobo Chuokai) met Monday, to draft, "instructions to Japanese nationals overseas," stressing the real aim of the Greater East Asia War.

The conference, which was convened at the Imperial Hotel, was attended by Admiral Ryokitsu Arima, Admiral Eisuke Yamamoto, Saburo Nango, prominent financier, Inosuke Furuno, President of the Domei News Agency, Madam Yayoi Yoshioka, noted educator and other leaders in various fields.

To Congratulate Japan

Domei

ROME, February 24.—In recognition of the valor and decisive military defeats inflicted by Japanese Forces on the Anglo-American military machine, since the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War, the Hungarian Parliament voted to dispatch a message of friendship and commendation to the Imperial Japanese Diet today, Stefani reported here from Budapest.

Foreign News Spotlight

Exclusive Flashes

CHURCHILL ADMITS MALAY LOSSES TREMENDOUS, AS COMMONS DEBATE OPENS

As the two-day debate to iron out the causes for the recent British reverses opened in the House of Commons on Tuesday, Prime Minister Winston Churchill bluntly revealed that the British had suffered tremendous losses in the Malay campaign, and added that the loss of Singapore was a regrettable fact which, however, must be faced.

During the course of the debate, Churchill made the following five admissions:

1. Japan has complete air, land, and sea superiority in the southwestern Pacific.
2. Reinforcements to this area are most difficult in view of the serious allied shipping losses, as well as the loss of strategic bases, during the past few months.
3. The allied shipping is strained to the utmost even at the present time.
4. The British suffered tremendously in the Malay campaign, in view of the fact that 40,000 troops had been sent in December to reinforce the 60,000 already stationed there.
5. More setbacks and trying ordeals face the allies in the future.

CHIANG SPOKESMAN ADMITS BURMA ROAD LOSS

Admitting that the Burma Road, vital lifeline of Chiang Kai-shek's Army had been cut off, a Chungking spokesman told the press on Tuesday that the government was compelled to consider an air transport service to India.

The spokesman further admitted that the capacity of such a service would be far from adequate in fulfilling the huge requirements of China's armies, but added that, inasmuch as China was not self-sufficient, she must rely on obtaining material aid from her allies.

AUSTRALIA INVESTIGATING DARWIN RAID DAMAGES

Senior officers of the Australian Army and Navy are carrying out an investigation to determine the extent of damages sustained in the Japanese raid on Port Darwin, according to an announcement on Wednesday by War Minister Francis Ford in Canberra. Ford said that the report will be ready within a few days, and added that the public will be informed of the committee's findings as far as security limits would permit.

ROOSEVELT STRUCK BY JAPANESE VALOR

F.D.R. Grudgingly but Helplessly Admits Santa Barbara Attack Was Brilliant

CALIFORNIA IN CONFUSION

American Warships Sent From San Diego to Look for Elusive Submarine

While Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles, commenting on the attack on the coast of California by a Japanese submarine, indicated that the Americans now know why they must bolster their fighting spirit, President Franklin Roosevelt admitted that, though it was an enemy submarine which carried out this daring attack, he could not but express his admiration for the courage of the Japanese, according to a Yomiuri report from Buenos Aires.

President Roosevelt told reporters at the press conference in the White House that the cannonade of the California coast, the object of which, he said, was to interfere and disturb his fireside chat, must be considered as a superlative example of a politicomilitary strategy. "Though it was an enemy which carried out the attack, it was nevertheless spectacular," he added.

Fighting Spirit Urged

Undersecretary of State Welles stated: "Though the American public seems to be in confusion over this unprecedented attack on the American mainland by a foreign ship, we must profit by this incident and turn this misfortune to a blessing. We must enhance our fighting spirit. The bombardment is nothing more than Japan's method of frightening America."

Regarding the same incident, the Nichi Nichi report from Buenos Aires indicated that the attack on the California coast by a Japanese submarine has thrown the whole Santa Barbara district into indescribable confusion, much like a battle scene. Coast defense guards were rushed to the scene of the bombardment while warships were dispatched from San Diego. Searchlights illumined the sky throughout the night of February 23. It was learned that the light on the Wrigley's chewing gum neon tower in Times Square, New York City, was put out, the Nichi Nichi added, as the nation, from coast to coast, hastily turned off all its lights on that night.

Oil Wells Objective

Domei

BERLIN, February 24.—It is evident that the lone Axis submarine, which appeared off the California coast, eight miles north of Santa Barbara yesterday, made the daring attack with oil wells and refining facilities as its objective, the German News Agency reported today.

However, the United States has failed to reveal the extent of the damages which has been wrought by the unprecedented attack, it was added.

Immediately following the initial bombardment, United States torpedo and pursuit planes dashed to intercept the submarine without success, despite the random release of 10 or more torpedoes.

The audacity of this military feat has completely unnerved the entire Pacific Coast of the United States, the news agency concluded.

THREE AMERICAN SHIPS ARE SUNK IN ATLANTIC

Many Lives Lost When Truxton, Pollux and Republic Attacked

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 24.—The United States Navy Department has announced that three American vessels have been sunk off the Atlantic coast, according to a Washington report received here today.

At least 190 officers and men lost their lives in the foundering United States' steamers Truxton, 547-ton, and Pollux, 8,741-ton, at the entrance to St. Lawrence port on southern New Foundland, the announcement said.

The Truxton lost seven officers and 90 men, while the Pollux lost one officer and 92 men.

A third vessel, the tanker Republic, displacing 5,287 tons, was torpedoed by an enemy submarine off the Atlantic coast, the report stated.

Oil Refinery Near Santa Barbara Heavily Bombarded

PLANTS DAMAGED

The daring activity of the mighty Imperial Navy's submarine units, which have been achieving spectacular results along the American Pacific Coast, was crowned by the latest success of a lone raider which suddenly appeared off the Californian coast on February 24. Directing its guns on the American Continent, it bombarded the coastal fortifications with marked success, striking a great note of terror into the hearts of Americans.

The unidentified undersea-craft that appeared off California and bombarded the coastal fortifications near Santa Barbara, as reported in a Lisbon cable, has thus been verified as a Japanese submarine, the verification coming in the form of an Imperial Headquarters announcement which was issued at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday. The communique follows:

"An Imperial Japanese submarine carried out bombardment on military establishments on the coast of California, the United States, on the night of February 24, and scored great military results."

American naval authorities, according to a dispatch received in Shanghai, states the Asahi, admitting the attack, have issued a detailed report. According to this, a submarine, believed to be Japanese, fired numerous shells on the Bankline Oil Refinery near Elwood on the Californian coast. This submarine, the report further says, suddenly appeared at a point a quarter of a mile off Elwood, about 12 miles southwest of Santa Barbara, and continuously shelled the refinery between 7 and 8 a.m. (Washington Time) on February 23. Shells hit the plants and damage was caused.

In conclusion, the report announced that American warplanes were conducting a search for the enemy undersea-craft.

PORT MORESBY, NEW GUINEA, BOMBED

Domei

BERLIN, February 24.—A. S. Drakeford, Australian Air Minister, has admitted that Japanese air squadrons today attacked Port Moresby, in southern New Guinea, and caused considerable damage to military establishments there, it was learned by the German News Agency from Canberra via Shanghai.

BANDOENG AND MALANG ATTACKED BY JAPANESE

Domei

BERLIN, February 24.—The Netherlands East Indies High Command announced today, that daring Japanese air formations carried out devastating attacks on Bandoeng, 100 kilometers southeast of Batavia, early yesterday morning, it was revealed here from Batavia. Braving heavy anti-aircraft fire, Japanese formations roared over the airfield in strict formation and power dived to wreak havoc on the field as well as vital areas of the city, it was added. The announcement admitted that Japanese air raids also occurred on Malang airfield, in central Java yesterday, and serious damages were suffered.

DUTCH SHIPS SEIZED WEST OF TIMOR

Domei

AN UNDISCLOSED BASE, February 24.—Units of the Japanese fleet which participated in the landing operations on Timor Island on February 20, succeeded in capturing two Dutch merchant vessels west of Timor. Undamaged by their former crews, the two vessels will be put into service by the Japanese Forces.

THREE DUTCH VESSELS DAMAGED SEVERELY

Domei

UNDISCLOSED JAPANESE NAVAL BASE, February 24.—Air units of the Imperial Japanese Navy swooped down upon two Dutch vessels plying south of Amboina on January 20, and set fire to them by terrific bombing and machine-gun attacks. Another naval air formation sighted a 6,000-ton Dutch merchant ship in the same waters the following day and wrought serious damage to the craft with heavy bombing.

LAHAT IN SUMATRA COMPLETELY OCCUPIED

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE, February 24.—A unit of Japanese Forces successfully operating in Sumatra, completely occupied Lahat, approximately 80 kilometers southwest of Palembang, at 11:30 o'clock in the evening of February 22. The Japanese troops pounced on bewildered Netherlands forces with lightning attacks to seize control of the town, whose native inhabitants jubilantly welcomed the entrance of Japanese troops.

COL. OHIRA REVIEWS WAR DEVELOPMENTS

Corregidor Will Fall When Time Is Ripe, Central Cooperative Group Told

PALEMBANG WELL SECURED

Large-Scale Action of Intrepid Parachute Troops Described By Army Press Head

Addressing the Central Cooperative Council of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association during that organ's first day session of a scheduled two-day meeting Wednesday, Colonel Hideo Ohira, Chief of the Army Press Section, made a report on the development of the War of Greater East Asia.

His report follows:

"As soon as the Imperial Army and Navy entered into a state of war with the United States of America and Great Britain in the Western Pacific on December 8, 1941, the Imperial Army, without any loss of time, took over the foreign Concessions in various cities in China, occupied Hongkong and effected landing operations in front of the enemy on the eastern coast of the Malay Peninsula. During the period of two months and a half which have passed since then, the military campaign has progressed with unexpected rapidity, and the Imperial Army is now advancing in Burma and Sumatra Island. Meanwhile, other Imperial Army units are strictly at guard in northern Manchoukuo in defiance of the severe cold and temperature which drops as much as 40 degrees below zero. In the interior of China, the Army forces are subduing the remnants of the Chungking influences.

"Hongkong fell into our hands within the short period of only 18 days after the first night attack effected by our forces. The booty gained by the Imperial Forces in this single battle consisted of 988 rifles, 1,206 machine guns and 122 pieces of artillery, while the number of enemy troops taken prisoner totaled 1,241. As against these losses on the part of the enemy, the casualties suffered by our forces was limited to only 675 troops.

"In the Philippines, the Imperial Forces landed in the neighborhood of Aparri on the eastern coast on December 10. Principal units of the Imperial Forces landed in the Lingayen sector on December 22, at the Lamon Bay on December 24, and occupied the city of Manila the same day. The Bataan Peninsula has not yet fallen completely because of the peculiar topographical conditions which are characterized by dense jungles which appear to defy the passage of even a single soldier. Moreover, the fortress of Corregidor is equipped with 30 centimeter guns. The Imperial Army can occupy the entire Peninsula together with the Corregidor fortress all at once should they act at the risk of large casualties, but the area will fall into our hands inevitably when time is ripe. In this respect the nation may rest assured.

"In the Malay operations, the Imperial Forces covered a distance equaling that from Tokyo to Shimonoseki within only 55 days during which period they engaged in 92 battles and repaired 258 bridges which had been destroyed by the fleeing enemy. By January 31, when the Imperial Forces reached Johore Bharu the booty taken by them amounted to 330 guns, 550 machine-guns and 400 rifles. The enemy troops taken prisoner numbered 7,800, with two divisions annihilated.

"It was on February 1 that the Imperial Forces made preparations for landing operations on Singapore which was considered one of the world's three largest fortresses. The Imperial Forces took particular pains in order to successfully attain the results of this campaign in which were combined operations for landing in the face of the enemy and for reduction of the fortress. It was for this reason that announcement of war news from this sector was withheld for some days.

4,600 Wounded Britons

"On February 15, the British forces defending Singapore surrendered unconditionally, and 73,000 British officers and men were taken prisoners, including 28 generals. Of the prisoners, 8,000 were wounded, of whom 4,600 were Britons. This is clearly indicative of the bloodiness of the battle fought around the fortress. War spoils obtained by the Imperial Forces in this battle included 300 guns, 2,000 machine guns, 50,000 rifles and 200 tanks. Detailed figures covering our losses are not available but provisional reports set our total casualties at approximately 3,500.

"I will omit comment on the far-reaching effect of the collapse of Singapore on the entire military situation, but would like to emphasize the fact that the fall of Singapore has placed Japan in a position to secure the natural resources in the southern regions and to firmly establish an invincible position. Japan now has acquired a position so strong and solid as to enable her to continue fighting regardless of how long the war may be prolonged and how vast the war fronts may expand.

"Of the oil fields in the areas occupied by the Japanese Forces in Borneo, the Miri sector is noted for fairly high-grade oil, and was not seriously damaged although the wells in the Seri district were destroyed to a considerable extent. Thanks, however, to the strenuous efforts on the part of the Imperial Forces, practically all the oil wells have been rehabilitated.

Paratroops Praised

"The activity of the parachutist units of the Imperial Forces at Palembang undoubtedly gave a pleasant surprise to you. It was only very recently that the Imperial Army studied the feasibility of this particular branch of the fighting services. The employment of such a large unit as in our case has no precedent. The parachutist units have now completely secured the oil wells in the Palembang district, and hold a position to defy any enemy."

"Before concluding his address, Colonel Ohira said that the most pleasing factor of military and naval operations in the southern regions is the fact that the damage afflicted upon our transports was very limited. Notwithstanding that the number of enemy airplanes totaled more than 1,000 and that of submarines 40 to 50, only 10 of our transports were sunk and 16 damaged up to date, thanks to the close cooperation with the Navy and the appropriate measures taken by the seamen in charge.

Of the 16 damaged ships six have already been repaired and are again in commission, Colonel Ohira added.

Colonel Ohira further revealed that, in spite of the unfavorable climatic conditions of the southern regions which are known for their peculiar maladies, the number of Japanese troops affected by sickness is limited to merely a few dozen.

Thanks Nation for Cooperation

General Hideki Tojo, Japan's popular Premier, seen addressing the Central Cooperative Council of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association in his capacity of president of that organ. After lauding the brilliant achievements of the Imperial Forces and expressing heartfelt sympathy for the fallen war heroes, the Premier voiced his thanks to the people of the nation for their wholehearted cooperation on the home front. It is this unity, so clearly in evidence even in the remotest corner of the nation that will win for the Empire of the Rising Sun complete and undisputed victory in the War of Greater East Asia.

SMALL SOVIET GAINS MADE ON EAST FRONT

Stalin's Forces Trying to Break Through German Ring In Leningrad Area

Asahi Service

ZURICH, February 23.—The Soviet Union seems to have succeeded at least in forcing the German forces on the defensive side in the winter campaign and in also making them waste men and munitions prepared for the coming spring offensive but after all, the Soviet army was unable to make the German forces retreat from their winter fronts, says the Zurich Zeitung in reviewing the Soviet-German winter campaign and predicting the future prospect.

Neither did the Soviet troops succeed in surrounding the Germans. Mozhaisk that the Soviet army regained is, of course, important but the Soviet forces were unable to recover Rzhev, the paper continues.

In February, the new tank corps and skii units of Germany, became active and they had to change its tactics. That is to say the army is obliged to resort to guerilla operations instead of a large-scale campaign. With the coming of spring, the Soviet must be prepared for further defeat and thus, they are devoting every effort to gain ground during the winter season.

Particularly in the Leningrad front, it is trying to break through the German encircling line but if they fail to do so, it will be impossible to use Lake Ladoga for transportation purposes upon the melting of ice and Leningrad will be still perfectly encircled by the enemy.

For Germany it is imperative to occupy Leningrad at any sacrifice so that the supply route by the sea to the eastern front can be secured.

In the southern front, it is observed that German offensives will be shortly commenced, and the Red army is eager to hold the Crimean Peninsula. The future of the Soviet as well as the Allies seems to depend on the outcome of the battle on the southern front.

According to a report from Helsinki to Stockholm, the Soviet people in general, workers, farmers, women and children are mobilized for the construction of a new Stalin line. Thus it is observed that the winter offensive of the Red army is being made for holding the grounds until the completion of the proposed new Stalin line and also for the arrival of materials from the United States.

The Soviet side is observing that the spring offensive of Germany will be commenced in May. The main forces that are making the winter offensives are said to be the Siberian troops.

Today's Press Comments

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Detailed translations of these and other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times and Advertiser.)

Japanese Submarine Attack on U.S.

HOCHI—It is gratifying to learn that the first Japanese submarine attack on the mainland of America was carried out on the night of February 24. When the news was first received of an attack by an unidentified submarine on American military establishments on the Californian coast, we secretly believed that this submarine was Japanese, and this fact was confirmed in a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters on February 25.

The news of the Japanese submarine attack has startled the entire American nation, and the fact that this attack synchronized with President Roosevelt's broadcast on American defeats in the War of Greater East Asia has naturally intensified America's uneasiness.

In the Atlantic, German submarines are very active at present, and it is reported that a large number of American ships aggregating over 500,000 tons have already been destroyed by German submarines. To add to the distress of the American people, their Pacific coast is now exposed to a serious menace from Japanese submarines. These Axis submarine activities will certainly have a very demoralizing effect on America.

Success of 'Resource' Warfare

YOMIURI—One of the characteristic features of the War of Greater East Asia is that it is a battle for resources. The central objective of the present war is to crush the enemy strength and to wipe out all American and British military bases on the Pacific and in regions within the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. Simultaneously, the acquisition of all important resources by Japan is a matter of cardinal importance, because this will consolidate the economic life of the Co-Prosperity Sphere.

Excellent war operations of Japan have resulted in the virtual crushing of almost all key military bases of the enemy in the brief period of only two and a half months since the opening of hostilities. Singapore has already fallen into Japanese hands. Operations to develop natural resources are progressing steadily in the Philippines, Borneo and Malaya. It was on February 14 that Japanese Army parachute forces made a surprise landing at Palembang, one of the three big cities in Sumatra, while on February 17 Japanese Army units completely occupied that city. Muntok on Banka Island, off the east coast of Sumatra, was the scene of a Japanese landing on February 15 made in the face of enemy resistance. Tin resources on that island thus have been firmly secured by Japanese troops. Immediately following the occupation of Singapore, Japanese Forces also captured Bintan Island not far from it and secured bauxite resources there. All this was effected with lightning swiftness.

The Netherlands East Indies, so to speak, is a joint colony of the United States, Britain and the Netherlands. Key resources there consist of petroleum products, rubber, coal, iron ore, nickel ore, bauxite, sugar, tea, tobacco, coffee, cinchona bark, copra, corn, potatoes, palm oil, etc. The Malay Peninsula, which has been placed under Japanese control, is widely known as the greatest supplier of rubber and tin. Cinchona bark is an absolutely necessary material in combatting malaria. The United States and Britain have now been deprived of these materials as a result of Japan's successful operations.

Goal of National Savings

MIYAKO—The goal of national savings for the current fiscal year has been set at ¥23,000,000,000. Details will be fixed in conformity with the program for the control of funds for the next fiscal year, but the funds needed for the absorption of public bonds are tentatively fixed at ¥17,000,000,000 and the funds needed for the expansion of production at ¥6,000,000,000. It is important, in order to prevent inflation, to raise these funds through national savings, and it is superfluous to say that every individual must do his best to help attain the national savings goal. The figure of ¥23,000,000,000 is three times the amount of national savings projected for the fiscal year 1938-1939, and it need hardly be said that enormous effort is needed on all sides in order to achieve this goal. It is particularly necessary that special efforts should be made by those people whose incomes have increased on account of the war situation.

Rule Aid Association and General Election

NICHI NICHI—Many people have questioned the use of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association. The trend to question the continued existence of the organization is still strong. Some people openly suggest that the Association be dissolved. Others demand the incorporation of the organization in the Board of Information.

It is not chiefly because the Association is a menace to the present members of the House of Representatives that there is such an increasingly strong demand for the dissolution or merger of the Association. The principal reason is that a good understanding of the society and the task it is expected to perform is lacking on the part of the people. There is something about the organization which makes it extremely difficult for the majority of the people to grasp its precise character.

The Association has elected to sponsor a drive to make the people take a keen interest in the general election of the House of Representatives, expressing and reflecting the new spirit which is beginning to stir among the people. If the association can be of any aid in electing really able men who have a knowledge of the situation confronting the country, all doubts and misgivings about it will disappear.

The organization is a public body. But the fact remains that its mission continues to be one of helping construct a new internal national structure. The Association and other organizations affiliated with it have done a good deal to improve the tone of local politics. They are responsible in a large measure for removing politicians who were not acting or conducting their activities in line with the times. We want the Association and its numerous affiliates to take a long step further in working actively for a condition which will permit young men of ability to enter the active political arena.

RED ARMY FOUNDING HONORED BY BRITISH

England's Fate Dependent Upon Soviet Victory—Stalin Hides True Intentions

D.N.B.

BERLIN, February 25.—England observed the celebration of "Red Army Day" with the realization that its fate depended on Russian victory, declared the Diplomatisch-Politische Korrespondenz.

With the British forces suffering disastrous defeats in Libya and Malaya, the people of England have been seeking encouragement in the heavy fighting on the Eastern front and looking to the Russian army for their own victory. The Korrespondenz described Sir Stafford Cripps, now occupying the most influential post in the British Government, as the special agent of the Kremlin, and the man who urged the British celebration of the 24th anniversary of the Red Army.

In his orders of the day Premier Stalin did not include his world revolution program, and he sought to present the hostilities as a "righteous war of defense." But what he left unsaid is known, the German journal pointed out, and that is that Premier Stalin never had the intention of being satisfied with the Soviet Union's old frontiers, but that he wanted those frontiers which he considered requisite for the safeguarding of his country from all sides. This meant that he would love nothing more than to occupy Berlin.

Premier Stalin's declaration was nothing but a new attempt to disguise his true intentions, which were known only too well by the nations of Europe. To check this unbridled spread of Bolshevism, Germany, the champion of the new order in Europe, did not hesitate to strike a deadly blow against it and the Bolshevik army, the newspaper concluded.

PREMIER TOJO ASKS EMPIRE SOLIDARITY

(Continued From Page 1)

House of Representatives which will reflect to the fullest extent their iron will to victory in the war for the construction of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

The Society, which is fully alive to the immensity of the task facing it, therefore, called a two-day extraordinary session of the Central Cooperative Council, a body of more than 200 members, representing the districts into which the country is divided and all important groups of people in the nation, for discussion of the problem of what is to be done by the Society in order to insure that the successful candidates in the coming general election will all be men in a position to express the aspirations of the people at this phase of the War of Greater East Asia.

When the extraordinary session is at an end, the Society is scheduled to call a meeting of leaders of the Rule Aid Adult Men's League, affiliate of the Society, to discuss the same question. The League, whose function it is to see that the decisions of the Society are carried out by the people, comprises men of prominence throughout the country.

Opens at 9 O'clock

Wednesday's session of the Central Cooperative Council was opened at 9 a.m. by an address by Premier Tojo in his capacity of president of the Rule Aid Society. He was followed by Fumio Goto, president of the Cooperative Council, who was in the chair.

The opening ceremony came to an end at 9:50 a.m. and immediately afterward the session plunged into its business.

Colonel Hideo Ohira, head of the Army Press Section, presented a report on the development of the war. He was followed by Commander Itaru Tashiro, of the Navy Press Section, who recounted the achievements of the Navy in the war.

A resolution expressing thanks to the two fighting services and paying tribute to the memory of war dead was then proposed and adopted unanimously.

During the afternoon session the members voiced their views on a number of questions laid by the Society.

The historic session of the Cooperative Council was held at the Greater East Asia Hall, formerly the Tokyo Kaikan, in Marunouchi.

Members in High Spirits

Long before the time set for the opening of the meeting, delegates began to arrive at the hall. There were radiant smiles on their faces, in sharp contrast to the grave expressions they were seen to have when they met at the same place for the last time on the unforgettable December 8, when the Imperial Rescript declaring war on America and Britain was granted.

During this almost three-month interval events of the utmost importance to East Asia and to the world at large have followed in quick succession, chief among them being the fall of Hongkong, the capture of Manila, and the surrender of Singapore.

Yet despite their high spirits, the delegates all seemed very determined, and entered the hall like men who were going to decide a matter of supreme importance to the State.

Prayer Offered at Shrine

Before they went about their work of deliberating on what steps are essential to the establishment of what is termed by the Government and Rule Aid Society as the "rule aid election system," they sent a delegation to the Yasukuni Shrine to pray for the invisible assistance of the war heroes enshrined there in the task before them.

President Goto of the Cooperative Council, and three other leaders of the Rule Aid Society, visited the Meiji Shrine, and on behalf of the Society offered prayers for the success of the movement for constructing a rule aid election structure.

The opening ceremony of the session started at 9:05 a.m.

Premier Tojo Speaks

Premier Tojo, in his short address, appealed to his listeners to collaborate with the Government in working out the vital problem of how best to bring about full display of the wonderful power of the nation which is behind the series of brilliant victories which have been scored by the Imperial Forces in the current war.

His address, in substance, was as follows:

"In only 70 odd days since Japan's declaration of war upon the United States and Britain, the Imperial Forces have reduced the greater portion of the enemy's strongholds one after another including Singapore which had been proud of its impregnability in East Asia, thus smashing the sea power of Britain and the United States. Singapore, which has been renamed Shonan Island, following its fall into Japanese hands, is now on the way of rebirth.

"Such brilliant war results should be attributed to the August Imperial Virtue and the bravery and loyalty of the Japanese Forces on the front. I herewith wish to express profound condolence and deep sympathy with the souls of those war heroes who have sacrificed themselves to the cause of the State. I also wish to express my hearty sympathy with those who have been wounded in action and offer thanks to those who have distinguished themselves in the military operations by overcoming various difficulties and hardships.

"At the same time, I wish to express my profound thanks to the people behind the guns who are now proceeding for the achievement of the lofty objective of the War of Greater East Asia by fully observing their duty in the form of vocational services.

Must Gain Final Victory

"The War of Greater East Asia is a lofty task unprecedented in the annals of the world's history to protect the existence and dignity of the Empire on the one hand and on the other, to ensure the lasting peace of East Asia. Therefore, we must be determined firmly to gain victory over the enemy and to achieve the lofty objective of establishment of Greater East Asia by all means. Even at this moment war heroes on the front are fighting for the objective in utter disregard to the question of life or death.

"In parallel with the activities of war heroes on the front we, the people behind the guns must proceed with achievement of the lofty objective of the war. We must enhance the spirit of total unison in the true sense of the word through our respective occupational service, true to our inspiration which has inflamed us since the occasion of the declaration of war on December 8.

"The very spirit for fulfilment of the national duty through vocational services and for the complete unison of the nation is nothing but the tradition of the Japanese race and the latent power fostered by the Japanese in the past 2,600 years which is incomprehensible to the British and Americans. In fulfilling the subjects's duty through vocational services, it is necessary for each of us to pay due attention to the cultivation of kindly sentiments—a bit of kindness shown by officials in charge of distribution of foodstuffs will serve much to strengthen the sentiment of national unison and cooperation and to enhance the efficiency of each person.

"It is natural in this connection for the Government to guide the people adequately and effectively. At the same time, the Taisei Yokusankai, or Imperial Rule Assistance Association, which is the counterpart of the Government, should leave nothing undone in making efforts for the enhancement of the total national strength, taking into consideration the actual situation of the national livelihood.

"Without sufficient national cooperation it is very difficult to strengthen and renovate various structures, especially in the fields of politics, economy and culture of the nation. In this sense I herewith hope for a strengthening of national unison through the activities of the Taisei Yokusankai.

"The Government has decided to carry out the general election for the House of Representatives at the end of April. What the Government desires to carry out during wartime is to foster the total power of the nation and to urge the nation to achieve the lofty objective of the War of Greater East Asia. Therefore, the Government desires to make the most of the forthcoming general election. In this sense, the Government cannot but expect the formation of the post-election Diet session strong enough to meet the new situation developed rapidly following the China Affair, especially the War of Greater East Asia.

"Considered in this light, the Taisei Yokusankai should refrain from taking part directly in the election campaign. It, however, should contribute to the State by developing the movement for a fair general election for achievement of the lofty objective of the War of Greater East Asia."

CHUNGKING MEN SHOCKED BY WEAKNESS OF ALLIES

Peace Movement in Unoccupied Areas Given Big Impetus, Army Spokesman Says

Domei

SHANGHAI, February 25.—The disastrous defeats repeatedly suffered by Great Britain and the United States since the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War have severely shocked the Chinese populace in unoccupied China, and have stimulated the growth of a strong peace movement in such areas, Lieutenant Morito Matsuda, assistant Japanese Army spokesman, declared during a press interview here yesterday.

The latest Allied defeats, especially Singapore, have made these Chinese realize the hopelessness of depending on Anglo-American assistance, Lieutenant Matsuda emphasized.

This realization has brought about an intensive movement for peace with Japan, the spokesman said, adding, an important movement is now underway in western Chekiang to persuade Chungking to seek peace with Japan.

He added, the "Anti-War Movement Leadership Committee of the China War Zone," which is at the head of this movement, telegraphed a resolution to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek today, urging him to terminate his resistance and to consider instead collaboration with Japan in the establishment of Greater East Asia.

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CHURCHILL VEXED BY INDIAN QUESTION

Prime Minister Now Desperate —Doing Everything He Can To Solve Issue

Subsequent to the fall of Singapore, the most important base for Britain to exploit the East Asiatic people, it is more than apparent that the Churchill Government is now greatly worried over how to preserve its remaining possessions in Asiatic waters.

This anxiety of the British Government, according to an Asahi special dispatch from Shanghai on Tuesday, is growing daily. It was due to this that British Prime Minister Churchill recently introduced a reshuffle in his Cabinet and that the reshuffle is expected to be followed by another in the near future.

Of all the things which are troubling the British Government, the dispatch says, the foremost is the Indian problem.

India, if nothing particular is done to the general trend among the native inhabitants in the country, will forever be dropped from the British control thus, making the very existence of the United Kingdom exceedingly precarious.

Then, how is the Indian problem affecting the Churchill Government? The Asahi dispatch itemizes the problem as follows:

Indians Now Encouraged

(1) Due to the occupation of various British-controlled regions by Japan in the course of the Greater East Asia War, and also due to Premier General Hideki Tojo's speech in the Diet pledging hearty support to any nation in East Asia on their respective move for independence, many Indians both in their homeland and abroad are gradually feeling much encouraged in the realization of their desire to have their country independent. The same trend is also seen among the Burmese nation.

(2) The measure decided at the conference of the representatives of the British colonies in Asia at New Delhi in 1939 to the effect that all India would be turned into the seat of a great wartime industry has not yet been under way chiefly because the majority of the Indian population are opposed to the realization of the measure. They say the measure will give an irretrievable blow to the Indian household industry based largely on manual work. The opposition is now threatening to become a grave friction between the Indians and the local British authorities.

Churchill Desperate

Prime Minister Churchill, the dispatch further reports, with the aim of pacifying the Indian people, is now resorting to every possible means, the most conspicuous of which is his forcing Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek to stay in India to converse with many leaders in both official and civilian circles of that country. General Chiang, it was recently reported, had intimate talks with the leaders of the National Congress of India.

The fact that Sir Richard Stafford Cripps, British ex-Ambassador to Soviet Russia, was invited into the Churchill Cabinet is another example to show how greatly the British Administration is concerned with the Indian problem.

Sir Richard, as may be well seen in his career, has some radical views on the British policy toward India. Then, there is a rumor afloat among the political observers that Sir Archibald James M. St. Clair Sinclair, British Secretary of State for Air, after being relieved of his present position, will shortly be sent to India as a special envoy.

All in all, however, it may be well predicted that any of the measures now harbored by the British Prime Minister concerning India are not what are really wanted by the Indian people. He would not give India the independence in the real sense of the word.

Judging from the ways now being adopted by him, he seemingly intends to pacify the Indians with all possible make-shift measures. The Prime Minister, the Asahi report asserts, noted for his craftiness, will never satisfy India to the full.

Won't Sit With Beaverbrook

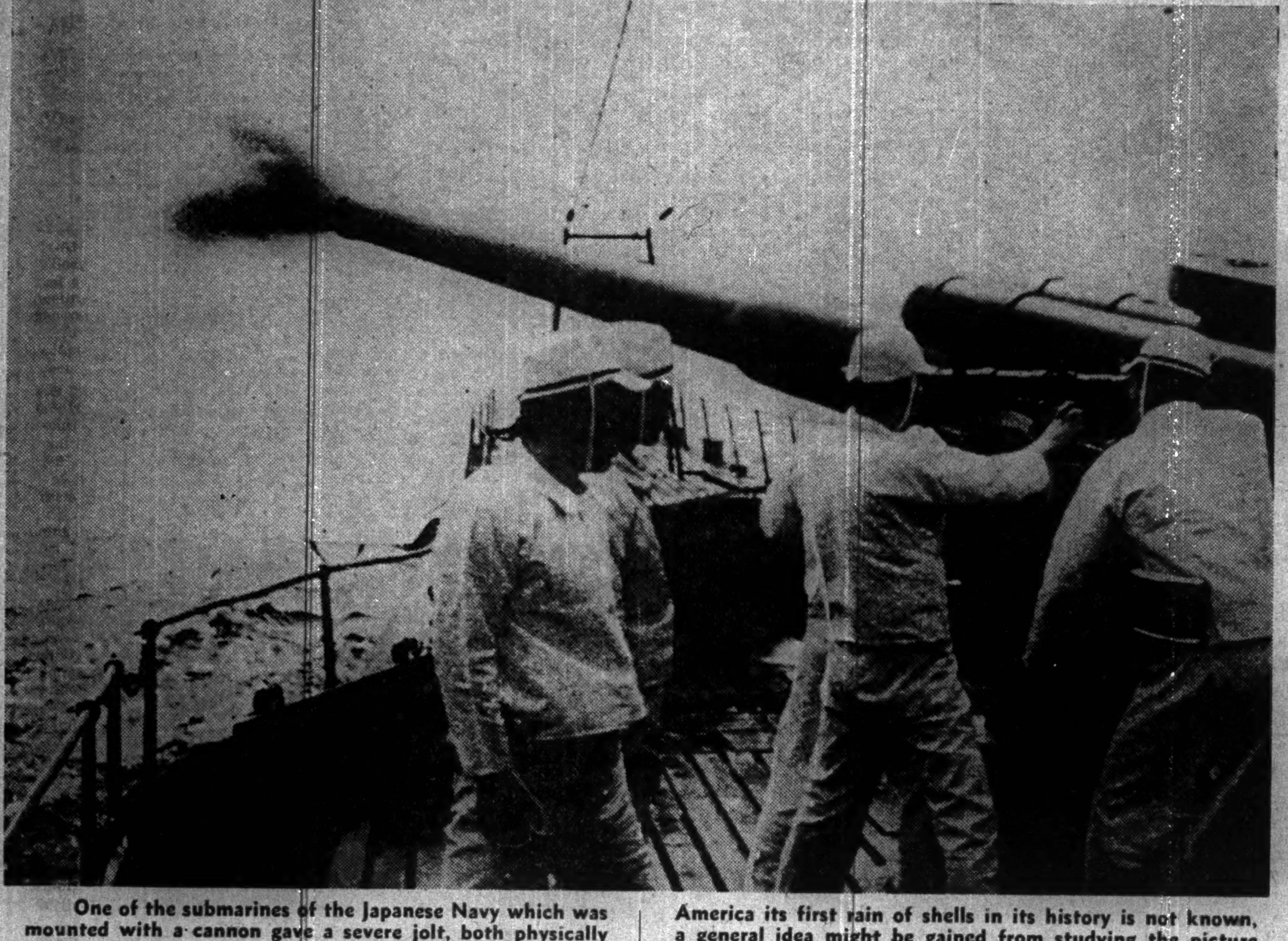
D.N.B.

STOCKHOLM, February 24.—Lord Beaverbrook's departure was attributable in the first place to the intransigent attitude of Sir Stafford Cripps who sardonically declared that he was unable to sit in the Cabinet together with a newspaper magnate, it was reported by the Swedish press. The correspondents stress that the appointment of Cripps was the most welcome to public opinion regarding the recent Cabinet changes. From the point of view of public opinion the strength of Sir Stafford Cripps' position was that he had no share of responsibility for the numerous errors committed by the successive governments in the course of the past years.

Consequently his appointment corresponded to the public demand for new men who had no share in political errors of the past years. Regarding Arthur Greenwood's future the Swedish correspondents point out that it might be possible that he will resume his former activity as leader of the Labor Party in the House of Commons.

The correspondents report that in well-informed London political circles, considerable uncertainty is prevailing regarding Lord Beaverbrook's intentions. Many persons are of the belief that Lord Beaverbrook would prefer to return to Fleet Street rather than to continue his political career. On the other hand, there is so far no confirmation of the rumors that Beaverbrook refused to take up the assigned duties at Washington. It is stated that Lord Beaverbrook at the present is confined to his room on account of a severe attack of asthma.

Such Submarine as This Cannonaded U.S.



One of the submarines of the Japanese Navy which was mounted with a cannon gave a severe jolt, both physically and psychologically, to the American people when it bombarded the coast of California on February 24. Although the size of the cannon on the undersea craft which gave America its first rain of shells in its history is not known, a general idea might be gained from studying the picture above. (Courtesy of the Navy Ministry, Censored, No. 571.)

HOT DEBATE OCCURS OVER SOLDIERS' PAY

Captain Cunningham-Reid Declares in Commons That British Soldiers Underpaid

Transocean

LISBON, February 13.—A heated debate on the pay to British soldiers took place in the House of Commons between Captain Cunningham-Reid, M.P., and the Undersecretary of War, Sir Edward Grigg, today, according to reports from the London Daily Mail.

Captain Cunningham-Reid declared that the recent increase of pay to British soldiers was absolutely inadequate, pointing out that American soldiers were getting five shillings daily while Canadians and Australians received five shillings six pence and six chillings nine pence daily respectively.

He was thereupon accused by Sir Edward Grigg that by his statement he was rendering service neither to the British nation and army nor to the cause for which Britain was fighting.

Supported by Labor Members

Captain Cunningham-Reid was however supported by several Labor Members of the House. Mr. Bellenger, one of those members, stated that on account of the fact that the question of pay was essential, dissatisfaction was evident in the British army.

Thereupon the Undersecretary declared everyone "traitor" and hinted that the morale of the British troops had been impaired. He stated that the pay of soldiers must be adapted to conditions in the respective countries, pointing out that the recent increase of pay to British soldiers would cost the nation an additional £50,000,000 to £60,000,000 annually. He hinted that any further increase of pay would be unbearable for England.

MILAN OPENS BRANCH OF JAPAN AMITY SOCIETY

Envoy Horikiri Stresses Close Ties at Inaugural Ceremony

Transocean

MILAN, February 11.—A branch of the "Society of Friends of Japan" was opened at Milan today in the course of a meeting at the Town Hall with the Mayor of Milan in the chair.

On this occasion, a message from the Japanese Ambassador in Rome, Zeimbei Horikiri, was read.

After recalling that the relations between Italy and Japan had become constantly closer and more intimate in the course of recent years as a result of their common struggle to realize the ideal of justice, the Ambassador stressed that the two countries are now fighting side by side with Germany on a front embracing the whole world against England and the United States for the overthrow of injustice.

The Ambassador went on to say that it was superfluous to point out that contrary to what had been the case in former wars, the present struggle was waged by essentially national forces in all domains. In order to bring the tremendous struggle to a victorious conclusion, it was necessary not only that Italy and Japan should understand each other but also that the two nations should share each other's enthusiasm and confidence in the future.

The Ambassador expressed his great appreciation of the activity displayed by the Italian Society of Friends of Japan and his best wishes for the success of the new branch now founded in Milan, the city which had witnessed the birth of Fascism.

Japan's Submarine Crew Resist Hardships To Guard Defense of East Asiatic Waters

The hardships experienced by the crew in a submarine are unbearable yet through their privations, they stick to their posts awaiting for the orders from the commanding officer. Suffering from heat-stroke more than anything else when cooped up in the chamber of the undersea craft, Japanese sailors, nevertheless, withstand all the rigors of war and their traits under such adverse conditions are responsible for the smashing victories scored by them in the Pacific.

In order to get first-hand information of how it feels to be in a submarine, your reporter was privileged to accompany a certain craft and the account narrated at sea is as follows:

"This is the first time I realized sea-water is warm," said the Captain of a Japanese submarine, which has finished its operations in the 00 area.

"We are right on the equator," continued the Captain, "and the water does not cool down even at night. Even the spray dashing over the conning tower is quite warm. I measured the temperature of the water the other day and found it to be over 31 degrees Centigrade. I am sure this is quite beyond the imagination of the people at home, who are now undergoing a cold winter."

"Yes," went on the Captain reflectively, "when we are cruising above the water, we can bear the heat somehow but when we are submerged, the heat is terrific. We can't work in our uniforms. The sweat pours down our backs like torrents. The heat is worse than the summer heat of Japan. The engine room is the hottest. Our bodily temperatures go up too as though we were suffering from some tropical fever.

Every Man at His Post

"But none of us can leave his post, however hot it may be. Every man has to stick to his job with all his nerves tense; he cannot relax. What is worse, the humidity of the air approaches saturation point and with the terrific heat, the interior of the ship is a veritable hell. Each one of us reminds himself, 'This is war,' and pulls together his straying senses.

"We do not get sun-stroke, but we get heat-stroke. During maneuvers, many of us went down from the unbearable heat but fortunately, everybody was all right during the actual fighting. After all, it's war, you know."

When a submarine is cruising above water, only one hatch besides the ventilators, is open. When it is submerged, all the openings are closed. If the cruise is long, the atmosphere inside the submarine becomes polluted. Electric fans serve only to circulate the already unbreathable air.

Moreover, the stores of food tend to go bad with the heat, and the smell of decayed food, coupled with the smell of stale sweat and oil, fill the whole submarine with a poisonous reek that is beyond description. "Oh, for a breath of fresh air!" is the perpetual, heart-felt cry of the inmates.

When enemy planes are overhead, the submarine is forced to remain below the surface for a considerable length of time. The sufferings of the submarine crew may be left to the imagination.

When at last the submarine is able to emerge and the hatch is flung open, all the crew rush to the opening to inhale the welcome, life-giving fresh air. "It sure tastes fine," one of them would say. "I can smell the southern flowers," another would remark.

Permission is granted to the crew to smoke at such times only, and they have to take it in turns to poke their heads out of the hatch to smoke. Some of them light two cigarets at the same time, for there is no time to smoke more than one cigaret.

A submarine cruise is controlled by the Commander's right eye. When the submarine enters dangerous waters, it keeps under the surface all the time. Those in the engine room grip their controls, and glare at the meter guages. The torpedo crew wait for the word of command all nerves tense. All orders are made directly by the Commander.

When the submarine nears its objective, it rises silently until the periscope is above the surface of the water. The periscope emerges but for an instant. The Commander's eye is glued to the eye-piece.

Tense Moment Arrives

The fate of the enemy ship hangs in the balance. Speed, direction, distance, everything is conveyed to the Commander's brain by one swift glance of his practised eye. His commands ring out, and the crew move swiftly, efficiently, like the coordinate parts of a well-oiled machine. They know nothing of what is going on outside. They place absolute trust in the judgment of the Commander, and do as they are told.

The long-awaited command to fire rings out. The torpedo crew galvanize into activity. The deadly missile shoots out. The crew wait with tense breath. One second, two, three, four, five. A dull boom reverberates through the water and the shock of the detonation rocks the submarine a little. A direct hit! The missile had found its mark! "Banzai!" The shout rings out in the confined space like the sound of a bronze gong. This one moment of joy compensates the crew for all their past agonies, for their tortures in the confined space, for the bad air, and for the terrific heat they had suffered.

Revived by this success, the crew forget their fatigue and the submarine glides through the water, unwearying, relentless, and ever-alert in its search for further prey.

LABOR CONTROL LAW ENFORCEMENT FIXED

To Increase Productive Capacity—To Open Offices in Five Cities

With a view to increasing the productive power necessary for the wartime economy, the Welfare Ministry is due to enforce the Labor Control Regulation on Thursday. This regulation is an up-to-date labor law, expected to give impetus to the productive power of leading factories.

Important points of the Labor Control Regulation are as follows:

(1) The Welfare Ministry is planning to designate leading factories for ammunition production.

(2) The designated factories shall submit the factory rule to the Ministry and obtain sanction therefrom.

(3) The factory rule hitherto a private contract between employer and employe, is to be made a public law. Violators of the rule shall be severely punished.

(4) The employer shall complete the welfare measures for culture, discipline, gymnastics, and nursery in the service of his employes.

(5) Labor Control Offices shall be opened in Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya, Fukuoka and Sapporo.

With this regulation enforced, sabotage by laborers, profiteering by employers, labor disputes and suspension of work during air raids will be checked. A remarkable increase of production is thus expected.

POWER OF AXIS BLOC FOOLS DEMOCRACIES

Roosevelt and Churchill Under-Estimated Strength and Now Get Dose of Medicine

Any nation which repeatedly underestimates the strength and will of the potential enemy is playing a dangerous game and it is doubly dangerous if the players indulge in wishful thinking and permit themselves to dictate to the enemy.

The British Government is a good example; it under-estimated the strength and will of the German people and furthermore, foolishly attempted to dictate to Germany just how the Reich must behave.

Britain and France, so London thought, were more than a match for Germany, for the British authorities believed Berlin would have to give in at the last minute if London and Paris stood firmly by their demands. However, the table has been turned and the defeats Britain is now suffering are clear to every one.

This in gist is the warning appearing in the German journal, Voelkischer Beobachter of Berlin. The article in full follows:

England's sea power and France's land power were considered too great an obstacle for the Germans to hurdle, continues the paper. The British Government really believed it could have its way with Germany and Europe without fighting. It was thought that Germany had been cornered; and that to get out of that corner, the Reich would be willing to take orders from London. No one, apparently, took the trouble to gauge Germany's real strength.

England over-estimating her own strength and under-estimating Germany's, blithely declared war, and ever since that fateful September day in 1939, England has been losing every battle.

Still Under-Estimates Reich

She has been losing because she continues to under-estimate the strength of the Germans. What finer example of under-estimation could one ask for than the recent British debacle in North Africa, when the British claimed victory before the battle had hardly gotten under way, only to be smashed back a few days later?

The new war between Japan and Britain and the United States is another result of under-estimation in the dangerous game of power politics. How well one recalls the bombastic statements made by American leaders to the effect that the United States navy could "blow the Japanese Fleet out of the water in two weeks?"

Japan Puts One Over

Also, remember the claims made in Washington that Japan's economic structure would collapse in virtually no time at all? That, of course, was the same thing said of Germany.

Everybody who did not like Germany said she would collapse within six months, that the British Navy would starve out the German people, that Germany had no reserves of oil, steel, coal and other essentials. The same things are being said of Japan.

Just because Britain and the United States permitted themselves to be deluded, their leaders played power politics. The game was instigated by British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, but the major role was played by President Roosevelt.

One will recall that the relations between the United States and Japan remained comparatively normal until the end of July last year. The four years of the war in China had made no impression on President Roosevelt, but when Japan and France came to an agreement on the joint defense of French Indo-China, Prime Minister Churchill demanded action, and the American President complied.

Pressure on Japan

Attributing to something that did not concern him or the people of the United States of America, President Roosevelt declared an economic war against Japan. Due to the Japanese participation in the defense of French Indo-China upsetting Britain's designs on the French colony, the President subsequently froze Japanese assets, cut off Japan from her sources of vital raw materials and attempted to force Tokyo to toe the line drawn by Prime Minister Churchill in London.

London and Washington held the Japanese in such contempt that they thought they could actually dictate Japanese policy to the extent of demanding that Japan withdraw from the Tripartite Pact, in addition to accepting other conditions which included the virtual abrogation of the Franco-Japanese Joint Defense Pact.

In other words, the price demanded for a partial restoration of normal trade relations was the complete subservience of Japan to the orders of London and Washington.

The way was to be left clear for a British invasion of French Indo-China. Aggression against France, as one might recall, is something for which the British have a marked predilection. They have never missed an opportunity to attack their erstwhile ally. The British wantonly pounced upon the French at Oran, Dakar, Syria, French Somaliland and at sea. It annoyed Mr. Churchill greatly to be deprived of the pleasure of attacking French territory again in Indo-China, so Mr. Roosevelt demanded that the Japanese get out so as not to hinder Mr. Churchill's pleasure.

There is no doubt of it for the basic cause for the war between Japan and the Democratic Powers in French Indo-China. Evidently that territory had been reserved for Britain; and because the presence of the Japanese troops there upset Mr. Churchill's plans, something had to be done about it, and pressure, therefore, was turned upon Japan.

Try to Hide Themselves

Now British and American broadcasts recently kept harping on the charge that Japan wanted this war with Britain and the United States. Yet, at the same time they continue to talk about Japan's weakness. They still claim that Japan will be defeated.

The most amusing of all claims is the British and American insistence on the fact that the Japanese know they will be defeated. Those tireless war propagandists in London and Washington apparently pay no regard to the absurd inconsistency of their allegations. They claim that Japan wanted war and that Japan knows she will be defeated.

Yet, one claim nullifies the other for it requires the most elementary intelligence to realize that no nation enters into a war in which defeat is the inevitable conclusion.

Therefore, if Japan is weak as the British and American propagandists claim, she could not have wanted the war. If Japan wanted war she could not be weak.

Japan's Peaceful Intentions

Then again, it must be remembered that it was Japan and not the United States who initiated negotiations to avert this war. It was Premier Prince Fumimaro Konoye, who sent a peace message to President Roosevelt, and who ordered the Japanese Ambassador to Washington, Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura, to open negotiations with the State Department for an amicable settlement of Japanese-American differences.

It was Premier General Hideki Tojo, who dispatched a special envoy, Saburo Kurusu, to Washington to assist the Ambassador when it appeared that the Japanese-American conversations were on the point of breaking down.

However, on Mr. Roosevelt's side, there has been nothing but an adamant insistence of Japan accepting every American condition. So the question is who wanted this war?

Churchill Happy Now

In London, of course, Mr. Churchill is rubbing his fat hands in glee. The United States is at war, and the Pacific is the back door to England's war in the Atlantic and the European mainland. That's where he wants American men, and one can bet everything he has, that he has laid his plans very carefully to bring about this final condition.

The British fight a very poor war themselves, but they are past masters at getting other people to do the fighting for them. Hence, Britain's so-called "loyal cooperation" with the United States in the war against Japan. But if the past is anything to stand by, Britain's unlimited all-out assistance is the worst liability anyone can hear.

Look at Poland, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, Jugoslavia, Greece and Red Russia. They were not the "beneficiaries" of British assistance. Instead, they were the victims, and the United States is the latest victim of all-out British aid. That certainly will be an awful handicap for the Americans to carry.

Navy Officers Killed In East Asia War Officially Announced

The names of three naval officers, including one rear-admiral, who were killed in action in the War of Greater East Asia, will be officially announced by the Navy Ministry today. The heroes follow: Rear-Admiral Shusaku Shibuya, who was killed in a battle in the Borneo district on January 24, Lieutenant-Commander Hideo Someya, whose gallant death took place in the Borneo district on January 11, and Lieutenant Masayuki Yamashima, reserve, who died fighting in the same district on December 26.

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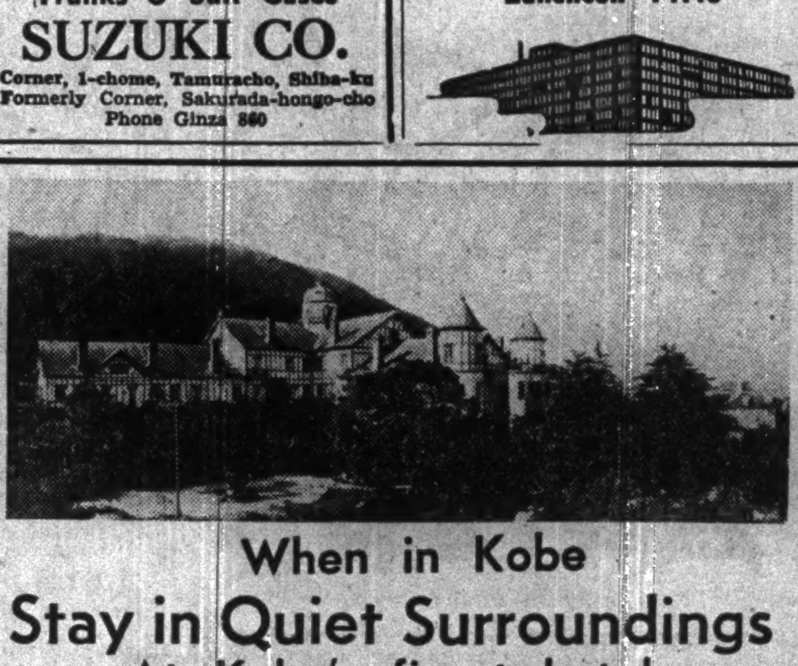

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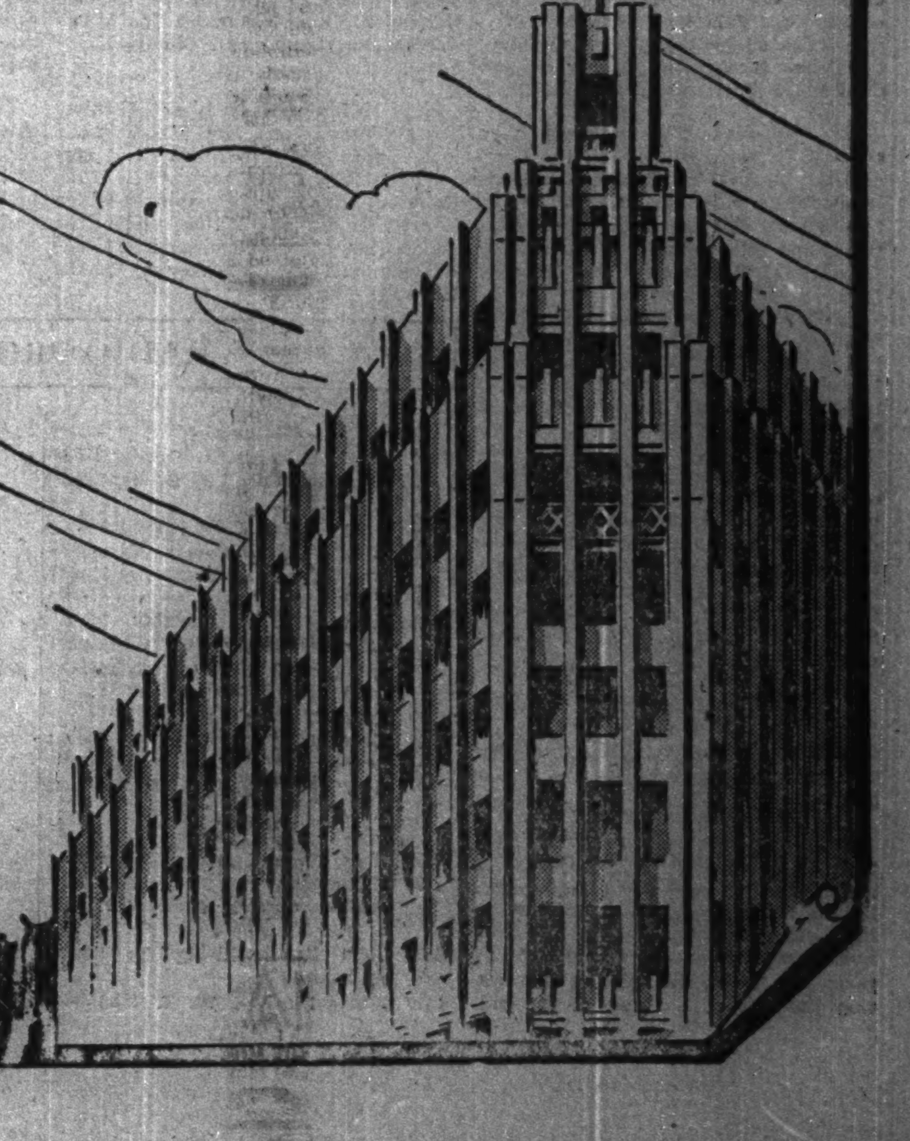

AXIS NATIONS TO GET JAPAN'S WAR FILMS

Neutral Countries Likewise Included in Plan to Show Imperial Army Activity

Applications for obtaining permits for the shipment of war newsreels dealing with the Greater East Asia War to the Axis Powers and neutral countries have been filed by the Japan Eigasha recently in an endeavor to introduce abroad the brilliant activities of the invincible Imperial Japanese troops in the present Pacific conflict. It is planned that newsreels Nos. 80 and 88 respectively, will be sent to Berlin, Rome, Lisbon and Ankara. In this connection the Society for International Cultural Relations also is planning to send "Nippon no Kaigun" (the Japanese Navy) to Berlin.

Selected by 31 judges, the big 10 of the best dramatic pictures and cultural features produced last year have been decided by the Japan Motion Picture Magazine Association. Due to the current war, foreign films were excluded. In the case of dramatic films, "Todake no Kyodai" (Brother and Sister of the Toda Family) by Shochiku, won the first prize with a cup and ¥1,000 in cash. The second prize went to "Uma" (Horses) by Toho. "Sora no Shonenhei" (Young Heroes of the Air) by Geijutsu Eiga secured the first prize for cultural films. "Shima" (Island) by Riken was the second prize winner.

Twelve leading cultural features will be offered directly by the Japan Eigasha next month as its last distribution before distribution control goes over to the Motion Picture Distribution Company from April. They are "Tatakau Heidan" (Fighting Corps), "Yuki to Heitai" (Snow and Soldiers), "Sensen Nimankiro" (The Battle Line of 20,000 Kilometers), "Jokei" (Woman Police), "Kayaku" (Gunpowder), "Kikanju" (Machine-guns), "Sakyu" (Sandhill), "Gobi Sabaku Tanken" (An Expedition to the Gobi Desert), "Soncho no Shuki" (A Village Headman's Diary), "Kogaku Heiki" (The Optical Instrument), "Kinro Doin" (Mobilization of Labor), and "Kinzan" (A Gold Mine).

A grand-scale preparation is now being made by the Japan Motion Picture Production Company for the production of "Honkon" (Hongkong), a dramatic picture. A crew consisting of the director and cameramen left recently for Hongkong while a group of players is scheduled to depart for the former British Crown Colony by the end of this month. The camera work will be continued until the end of May.

Emphasizing the necessity of the air defense drive, "Ichioku Bokujin" (Air Defense Front), the first version in a series of cultural features depicting Japan in wartime, will shortly be released on local screens. The Japan Eigasha is the producer.

"Shori no Kiso" (The Foundation of Victory), one of the latest cultural films by Riken, has been endorsed by the Education Ministry, as particularly suitable for classroom use.

By taking advantage of Army Day, which falls on March 10, motion picture theaters under the Nikkatsu banner will release the much-awaited war picture entitled "Shogun to Sambo to Hei" (The General, Staff Officers and Soldier). In addition, three cultural features produced by the Japan Eigasha will simultaneously be released. They are "Tatakau Heidan" (Fighting Corps), "Yuki to Heitai" (The Snow and Soldiers), and "Sensen Nimankiro" (The Battle Line of 20,000 Kilometers).

With close cooperation of the educational authorities, the Chinese Motion Picture Company has been endeavoring to enhance the cultural level in the knowledge of school children in China by distributing Japanese made films. It is reported that the company recently attained considerable success in Shanghai through the exhibition of the three films "Pengin no Okuni" (The Land of Penguin), "Aruhi no Higata" (Ebb-Tide), and "Hanasaka Jijii" (An Aged Man Who Makes Cherry Trees to Bloom), all Japan made pictures.

A sum of ¥18,438.22, out of the box office returns on February 8, the second Imperial Rescript Observation Day, was collected by the Central Guild of the Osaka Amusement Association, and donated to the national defense fund.

The following four pictures have tentatively been decided by the Government-General of Chosen as officially endorsed films among the recent productions shipped from Japan Proper. They are "Genroku Chushingura" (The Loyal Retainers of the Genroku Era) by Shochiku, "Awa no Deku" (The Dolls' Theater of Awa) by Osaka Mainichi-Tokyo Nichi Nichi, "Aru Hobo no Kiroku" (The Diary of a Nurse) by Geijutsu Eiga, and "Imonbukuro" (Comfort Bags) by Osaka Mainichi-Tokyo Nichi Nichi.

Under the supervision of the Board of Information, the Japan Eigasha is now making preparations for the production of two series of cultural features. They are "Teppeki no Kokubo Sangyo" (The Stubborn National Defense Industries), and "Shokuryo no Sonaye Ari" (Foodstuffs Are Well Provided).

The Shochiku has decided to utilize from March 1, the Shinjuku Daiichi Gekijo as the first-run theater of motion pictures produced by the Ofuna studio.

Two important conferences are scheduled to be held in Tokyo (March 2) and Osaka (February 28) between a liaison committee and the leading officials of the Motion Picture Distribution Company to discuss the future policy of the motion picture distribution business as a result of the projected enforcement of the control over distribution from April.

"Kokuyei Kaikonchi" (The State Control Reclaimed Land) by Jujiya has been approved by the Education Ministry as a cultural feature picture.

The Daito Eiga will, in the near future, send a party of 30 star actresses to the various army hospitals in and around the capital to entertain the wounded soldiers, as the lengthy screen play called "Miyamoto Musashi Kessen Hannyakuzaka" (Musashi's Decisive Fight) has recently been completed.

Tsumasaburo Bando, Utayemon Ichikawa and Kikutaro Onoye have been assigned the important roles in "Sonnozakura" (The Loyalists of the Meiji Restoration), a dramatic picture, which will go into production soon as the first film by Daiyei, the new film production company formed by the amalgamation of Nikkatsu, Shinko and Daito.

The Ofuna studio of the Shochiku Motion Picture Company has completed the shooting of "Sannin Shimai" (Three Sisters), a melodrama, in which Chiyeko Higashiyama, well-known stage actress, had been borrowed to play the important role. Tokiko Miura, Hideko Takamine and Miwa Mori share the starring honors.

The Imperial Rule Assistance Association will start a new drive in sending "Dai Toa Senso Gekimetsu Senki" (The War Diary of the Greater East Asia War), a "recording" war film, to the various prefectures throughout the country on an extensive circuit performance, commencing March 1.

"Seishun no Kiryu" (The Air Current), a dramatic aviation picture, went into production at Toho, with Den Ohinata and Setsuko Hara in the romantic leads. The other principal players in the cast include Yuriko Hanabusa, Akira Nakamura, Ko Mihashi, Suzuko Yamane and Tamaye Kiyokawa.

Koju Murata, Kazumitsu Komiya, Tokio Shimada and Koji Kosugi have been added to the cast in "Dai Goretsu no Kyofu" (Terrors of the Fifth Column), Nikkatsu's new vehicle, which is now under production under the supervision of the Gendarmerie Headquarters and with the support of the Railways Ministry.

Playing at Hogakuza

Currently showing on the Hogakuza screen is a French film entitled "Avec le Sourir" featuring the world famous French comedian, Maurice Chevalier. It is an MPIR picture.

Hollywood Production Low; Stars Drafted; Electricity Cut; Horses for Westerns Taken

Transocean

STOCKHOLM, February 6.—Despite a growing demand on the part of the American people, Hollywood film production is inadequate, according to Swedish press reports.

Film companies are said to be working almost exclusively for propaganda purposes under the control of Washington. But the chief cause of the scarcity of films is the fact that many male stars have been called to the colors, while a large number of women stars are busy advertising the sale of the defense loan, which is making only slow progress.

Other female stars, for publicity purposes, are said to have offered their blood to the Red Cross for wounded soldiers, but almost without exception were rejected because their blood was not suitable.

Furthermore, studios are greatly handicapped by the precautionary measures in force everywhere and by the reduced daylight hours not at their disposal. They are allowed to begin work an hour earlier but must close down before sunset.

To this must be added the fact that the Navy and Army authorities no longer allow any of their units to take part in films, although military films are in great demand. Wild West films likewise cannot be produced at present, as the army authorities have requisitioned the best horses in the country.

Kobe Notes

With the advent of an official announcement which will give in detail the method of eliminating small and medium sized trading firms in order to cope with the current situation, the Kobe Foreign Traders' Association has organized a committee which met for the first time on Monday February 23 at the Kobe Trade Institute.

The committee, the chairman of which is Mr. Suetaka, comprises more than twenty noted exporters and importers in the port city. At the initial meeting on Monday, the committee studied and discussed various subjects in connection with the elimination of small and medium sized concerns. The majority of the members were in favor of an early conclusion of the elimination of the said trading firms. However, some members of the committee expressed the opinion that the situation needs further study as it is still uncertain whether or not the dividing line of elimination calls for previous records to show that a trading firm has handled business worth ¥50,000 or more in a year. The committee will meet again on March 4.

In order to discuss ways and means of improving the State control of shipping, the Kobe Marine Bureau, which was established recently, held a roundtable conference with high officials of Hyogo Prefecture and Kobe City on Monday, February 22, at 6 p.m. at the Oriental Hotel.

Tadao Matsunaga, President of the Kobe Marine Bureau, addressed the gathering following which Governor Saka of Hyogo spoke.

Among others present were, Mayor Noda of Kobe; President Okazaki of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Major-General Matsuo Morizumi, Chief Naval Inspector in Kobe; Superintendent Kishi of the Kobe Custom House; Chief Odamura of the Kobe Gendarmerie; Chief Tatsuoka of the Kobe branch of the Osaka Defense Headquarters.

The following guests were registered at the Tor Hotel on February 24: Mr. K. Akita, Mr. S. Banba, Mr. G. Fust, Mr. and Mrs. B. Fujii, Mr. B. de Hepperger, Mr. J. Iwaki, Mr. K. Ikeda, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. de Lemoine, Mr. A. Lesourd, Mr. U. Oshima, Dr. and Mrs. W. Prahl and two sons, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Suzuki, and Mr. S. Sakuraba.

RADIO PROGRAM

	Thursday
	— Morning —
6:30	Serial Talk. "The Greater East Asia Geopolitics." by Dr. Saneshige Komaki.
7:00	Time; News; Radio Exercise.
7:30	"National Resolution"; Old Japanese Style Poem Recital by Kosho Kasuya.
8:00	News; Music: Chamber Music. "Clarionet Quintette." (Mozart) and Orchestra. Opera "Ab Hassan. Overture" (Weber).
10:00	News; Juvenile Hour.
11:00	National School 4th Class Hour: Drama "A Day in a Fishing Village," by The Nagasaki 3rd National School Pupils of Tokyo.
	— Afternoon —
12:00	Time; News; Japanese Folksongs.
1:00	Narration: "The Story of an Aircraft Carrier," by Announcer Umino.
1:30	Talk. "Practise Living." by Muneomi Umigo.
2:00	National School 7th & 8th Class Hour: Talk. "War and Science."
4:00	Serial Lecture on Wartime National Education: "The War of Greater East Asia and Scientific Technique," by Junichi Sugai of The Technical Board.
	— Evening —
6:00	Little Nation's Hour: News; Story Telling. "The Independent Machine-gun Units," by Tadao Ikeda.
6:30	Farmer's Hour: "Silkworms," by Hidenosuke Ishii of the Agriculture and Forestry Ministry; Chamber Music by Taka Trio: "Allegro" (Mozart), "Berceuse" (Schubert. Arr. by S. Abe) and "Serenade" (Arr. by S. Abe).
7:00	Time; News.
7:30	National Chorus.
8:00	Military Affairs Announcement; Gidayu Music; Phonofilm: "The Extraordinary Central Council."
9:00	News; Rakugo Monologue.
10:00	Time; Today's War Situation and News.

What of the Rialto?

By Tsunejiro Amakata

To celebrate the ever continuing glorious victories by the Japanese Forces in the War of Greater East Asia, the Fujiwara Opera Company in concert with the Shochiku Symphony Orchestra will present a special program at the Kabukiza on February 27-28 when "Jaido Tosei" (The Eastern Expedition) and Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 will be heard.

With two performances daily, the Kabukiza will be the center of the elaborate Kabuki plays and dances, which, starting March 2, will be presented by an excellent cast with Uzayemon Ichimura, Kikugoro Onoye and Nizayemon Kataoka in the lead. The two programs, each of which consists of three plays, were arranged with special care to commemorate the 30th anniversary this year of the death of Kakitsu Bando, noted actor of the Meiji era.

The matinee performance will open at 12 noon with "Kagamiyama Kyunishikiye" (the Tale of Court Ladies), one of the masterpieces by Chisetsu Omori. "Omi Genji Senjin Yakata" (The War Camp of Morisuna), an old classical drama, comes next, in which Uzayemon will play the title role. Concluding the show will be "Michiyuki Tabiji no Hanamuko" (The Elopment of Okaru and Kampei), a colorful musical-posture play.

At 5 p.m. the curtain will rise for the evening performance, of which the first number will be a one-act Yedo melodrama entitled "Futaba Chocho Kuruwa Nikki." Second is "Futaomote Mizuno Teru Tsuki" (The Ghost of a Priest), in which Uzayemon and Kikugoro will make a joint performance. "Kampei no Shi" (The Death of Kampei) will be the third and concluding drama. "Kampei no Shi" is adapted from one of the popular detective stories known as "Hanshichi Torimono-cho" written by the late Kido Okamoto.

The Shimpa Theatrical Troupe will take over the Tokyo Gekijo, starting March 1. Headed by Rokuro Kitamura, all leading players such as Noboru Umejima, Makoto Kobori, Taro Hanabusa, and Tomosaburo Ii will collaborate in a program of three plays, to be presented for the first time on the Tokyo stage. The curtain raiser is "Shinjuwan" (Pearl Harbor), a new work by Tamotsu Takata with settings by Kisaku Ito. This will be followed by a four-act drama called "Yusuzumeso" (A Love Story) adapted by Taro Tsukudo from an original story of the same name by Chiyo Tsutsumi. The third play will be "Yeiyen no Ryojin" (My Eternal Husband). The last is the dramatized version of a novel of Nobuko Yoshiya by Karyo Kawamura, which is now proving most popular as a serial in the Shufuno Tomo, a monthly magazine. Under the name of Yasuo Azuma, the former Nisacho, of the Soganoya group of comedians will join the Shimpa troupe from March.

The balance of the construction fund of two warplanes, raised by the Japan Actors Association last year, was recently donated to the Ministries of War and Navy as a national defense fund, amounting to ¥356.66.

"Dampei Monogatari" (The Romance of Dampei), a drama by Karyo Kawamura, won the "Sadanji Prize" for the year 1941, among those staged in Tokyo from March, 1941 to February this year. Onitaro Oka, Shutaro Miyake, Kinka Kimura and other noted playwrights and drama critics acted as the judges. The drama was staged at the Meijiza last month by the Shimpa Theatrical Troupe with great success.

The Kokusai Gekijo, Asakusa Park, which from March 6 to 10 will stage "Tatakidashita Kofuku" (A Turned-Out Happiness), featuring Reikichi Kawamura, Kuniko Miyake and several other screen stars of the Ofuna studio of the Shochiku Motion Picture Company, will present "Tokyo Odori" (The Dance of Tokyo), commencing March 11. It is one of the annual gala performances of the Shochiku revue troupe, consisting of 22 scenes under the title of "Sekai no Sakura" (The Cherry of the World).

"Wakaki Hi no Sanyo" (Sanyo in His Boyhood), a three-act historical play by Seikichi Sugimori, which is listed in the "national drama" of the Board of Information, will be used as the curtain raiser at the Shimbashi Embujo next month. It is a drama dealing with the episodes in the life of Rai Sanyo, famous scholar and patriot. The second offering will be "No-no Koye" (The Voice of the Field), a modern drama by Ryuichiro Yagi. This will be followed by "Genroku Chushingura" (The Loyal Retainers of the Genroku Period) by Seika Mayama. All members of the Zenshinza dramatic group, who have not been playing on the stage since last summer, will make their reappearance in this play.

At the Meijiza, the Shinsei Shimpa will present a new program, consisting of three plays. They are "Minami no Kaze" (The Wind of South), adapted by Tamotsu Takata from a novel by Bunroku Shishi; "Tanuki" (Badger) by Yutaka Mafune, and "Haha Kobai" (Mother) by Matsutaro Kawaguchi. The important roles in these plays will be taken by Shotaro Hanayagi, Ichijiro Oya, Kan Ishii and Eijiro Yanagi.

After a lapse of 18 months, the Imperial Theater will reopen as a playhouse toward the end of March when the Shinkokugeki theatrical troupe is scheduled to play. The theater had been occupied by the Board of Information, which recently moved to its new building.

Actors and actresses of a dramatic group headed by Kotaro Bando will play at the Yachiyoza, Osaka, for 10 days from March 1. They will also play in Wakayama until March 15 before proceeding to Nagoya where they will appear at the Kabukiza until March 31.

"Taiheiyo Tonarigumi" (The Neighborhood Association of the Pacific) is the title of a new comedy, which will feature the March bill of the Shochikuza, Asakusa Park, starting Saturday. The leading vaudeville performers of the Yoshimoto Entertainment Enterprises will play jointly. The additional feature is "Sumidagawa Ukiyo Yesugata" (The Colorful Scenes of the River Sumida), in which the screen players of the Shinko Kinema Production Company will be featured headed by Sumiko Suzuki.

Ennosuke Ichikawa, Sumizo Ichikawa and several other popular Kabuki actors, including Shikaku Ichikawa and Danshiro Ichikawa, will leave Tokyo this week-end for the Kansai district where they will appear at the Shochiku Gekijo, Kobe, for 10 days from March 1. Before returning to the capital at the end of March, they will visit Kanazawa, Fukui, Nagoya and several other leading cities in the Hokuriku district to present short performances.

The 12th party of vaudeville performers, which was organized by the Geino Gunka Remmei, left Tokyo yesterday for Manchoukuo to entertain Japanese soldiers stationed at remote places.

For the first time in the past 12 months, Kingoro Yanagiya and his own group of comedians will play at the Kagetsu Gekijo, Asakusa Park, next month. "Fumikiriban" (A watchman at a Railway Crossing), a new play, will feature the program.

The Shinjuku Cinema, one of the popular theaters in the Shinjuku amusement district, which has been renamed the Shinjuku Dai Gekijo, will present a new program of drama and music until March 1 under the management of the Nampo Amusement Company. The program has a variety of interesting offerings such as "Dai Toa Sensho Koshinkyoku" (The March of the Victory of the War of Greater East Asia), "Dengeki Kekkon" (Blitzkrieg Marriage), "Uta no Arubamu" (An Album of Songs), and "Kuroshio Matsuri" (The Festival of the Sea).

The traditional puppet show known as the Awaji Ningyo will be presented at the Yurakuza today. The program includes "Taikoki" (The Wrath of Mitsuhide), "Shinbu" (The Dance of God), "Ichinotani Futaba Gunki" (The Battle of Ichinotani).

The first performance of the Shin Engiza, a dramatic group organized by Kazuo Hasegawa and Isuzu Yamada and other star players of the Toho Eiga, will be presented at the Takarazuka Gekijo, near Hibiya Park, for 25 days from March 1. The program consists of three plays. They are "Maui no Bansho" (The Evening Bell at Maui), "Sagi Musume" (A Girl and A Snowy Heron), and "Oshima Sentaro" (The Romance of Oshima and Sentaro).

The Seseragikai, a group of dancers headed by Toshio Hirose, will play at the Nihon Seinenkan, Aoyama, today when "Honen Matsuri" (The Dance of Harvest) will be revived. This is the dance which won public acclaim last year in the contest held in celebration of the 2,601st year of the founding of the Japanese Empire.

Yaeko Mizutani will take the female lead in three plays at the Yurakuza, assisted by Toshio Yamaguchi and Minosuke Yamada, for the March performance, which will commence Sunday. The principal offering will be "Kama Imo San" (Kayoko, a Painter).

Roosevelt-Churchill Teamwork Fails

(Continued From Page 6)

recently sent some troops to Ireland. In the first place, America has no army worthy of the name. Secondly, America's merchant marine is not sufficient to transport a large expedition to Europe, while its navy is crippled with its Pacific fleet annihilated in Hawaii by the Japanese Navy. Even the extreme optimists in Britain and America would hesitate to take any hopeful view of the proposed establishment of an American or Allied air base in Soviet territory in East Asia.

Roosevelt and Churchill would have another occasion to make wry faces. The Washington jazz band which had an inauspicious start would have a tragic sequel, most likely to be administered to America and Britain by the Soviet Union. As one sows, so one reaps. The olive branch, held out by Japan for peaceful settlement of the Pacific question, has been trampled down by the United States and the British Empire, which are now paying dearly for their indiscreet and insolent act.

(The End)

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¥23 BILLION FIXED AS GOAL OF SAVINGS

Finance Minister Kaya Issues Statement Urging Public Fully to Co-operate

¥6 BILLION INCREASE SEEN

Deposits in Banks, Trusts, Investments in Securities All Remarkably Advance

The Finance Ministry, as a result of the eighth meeting of the National Savings Encouragement Committee held Tuesday, decided to fix the national savings goal for the 1942-3 fiscal year at a high level of ¥23,000,000,000 in order to smoothly finance the War of Greater East Asia, Finance Minister Okinori Kaya, in his statement issued the same day, urged wholehearted cooperation on the part of the general public, emphasizing that the attainment of the goal is prerequisite to successful conduct of the war public finances.

The 1942 goal of the savings campaign shows a big increase of ¥6,000,000,000 against ¥17,000,000,000 for the 1941-2 fiscal year. The new goal also indicates a remarkable increase in comparison with the ¥8,000,000,000 for the 1938-9 fiscal year, ¥10,000,000,000 for the 1939-40 fiscal year and ¥12,000,000,000 for the 1940-1 fiscal year. It is reported that importance was attached, in the setting up of the new goal, to the complete digestion of Government bonds to be issued during the next fiscal year.

Appropriated for Subscription

Out of the ¥23,000,000,000 of savings, ¥17,000,000,000 will be appropriated for subscription to Government securities and the remaining ¥6,000,000,000 as industrial productivity expansion funds. Government bonds amounting to ¥14,000,000,000 will be floated to pay war costs and additional ¥2,300,000,000 to cover the deficit in the general account of the Government, while the carry-over from the current fiscal year amounts to a considerable figure. Although the 1942 material, capital and labor mobilizations programs have not yet been drafted, the Finance Ministry estimated the industrial productivity expansion funds for the year at ¥6,000,000,000, the same as the figure for the 1941-2 fiscal year.

The statement issued by Finance Minister Okmori Kaya simultaneously with the announcement of the new goal of the national savings campaign was, in substance as follows:—

"It is a matter for congratulation that the national savings encouragement campaign has been successfully carried out since it was started in 1938 to finance the China Affair. Especially satisfactory results were seen last year despite the fact that the goal for the year was raised from the original ¥13,500,000,000 to ¥17,000,000,000 owing to the steady aggravation of the Pacific situation since last summer and the onset of the hostilities with the United States and the British Empire.

Savings Goal Far

"The national savings goal for the 1942-3 fiscal year although enormous in amount, must be achieved by all means not only to smoothly carry on the war public finance but to prevent over-issues of currency and the rise of commodity prices and also to economize goods and labor. If the savings campaign makes bad progress, the national economy will be handicapped and the stability of the people's daily life affected.

"Increased savings for the nine-month period (April 1, 1941, to December 31) amounted to ¥10,975,000,000, ¥9,252,000,000 of which represents money placed in financial institutions and the remaining ¥2,723,000,000, investments in securities as shown in the following table:" (In ¥1,000)

Postal savings	1,225,000
Premium of State life insurance	311,000
Postal annuity	121,000
Bank deposits and savings	5,147,000
Savings in credit associations	1,177,000
Money in trust	343,000
Premium of life insurance	764,000
Savings in mutual financing firms	164,000
Investments in securities	2,725,000
Total	11,975,000

SHIP HARDWARE ESSENTIAL FOR BUILDING-REPAIR WORK

Plan Made to Expand Output To Meet Mounting Demand For Tonnage

The Communications Ministry convened a general meeting of organizers of the Japan Shipping Hardware Control Company at its office on Monday and appointed Sozo Ikishima president of the projected company, reports the Asahi.

Expansion of the shipping hardware output is deemed the foremost essential for activating Japan's shipbuilding, rebuilding and repair industry to meet the rapidly mounting demand for shipping tonnage. The Communications Ministry, in collaboration with the Commerce and Industry Ministry, has formulated a plan for the expansion of shipping hardware output which includes the creation of the Japan Shipping Hardware Control Company in Tokyo with a capital of ¥1,000,000 and shipping hardware manufacturers companies in seven regions in Japan, namely, the Kanto, Kansai, Kyushu, Chubu, Chugoku, Tohoku and Hokkaido, each to seek and exercise control to boost output of shipping hardware within the border assigned to respective companies.

The Organizers' General Meeting held on Monday approved the plan drafted by the authorities, and drafted articles of organization of the Japan Shipping Hardware Control Company. It also appointed officers of the company including Mr. Ikishima for president, Masayuki Fujiwara, Shunjiro Jinen and Takeo Kitagawa for managing directors, and Magozo Kanaoka and Eikichi Uha for auditors.

U.S. Deluded By Air Figures

For All Its Frantic Efforts, America Far Behind Schedule In Aircraft Production—Conversion of Motor-Car Plants Difficult

The United States is a living example of the failure of statistics, especially those of the wishful thinking kind, to win a war. Its aircraft industry is at present demonstrating to the people of America, for all the astronomical figures, President Roosevelt has assembled in his declamations, the utter difference between dream and reality, says the International Economic Weekly a Domei publication in Japanese.

Mr. Roosevelt in Congress on January 6 presented an astonishing budget of $77,000,000,000 and set the production of aircraft for the current year at 60,000, including 45,000 fighters, and for next year at 125,000, including 100,000 fighters. In May, 1940, when President Roosevelt announced his colossal armament expansion program, he took the people by surprise by declaring that the goal of productive capacity was 50,000 yearly. The people were astonished because production at that time was at the most 500 machines a month. Then Henry Ford, mass production king, issued a statement to the effect that if the type and model of planes were fixed and designing unified and provided the Government refrained from interference at any time, he would guarantee to turn out 1,000 aircraft daily at Rouge River within six months. The ignorant masses in the United States, who had no idea of the difficulties attending the production of aircraft, naturally applauded the combination of presidential bravado and plutocratic vaunting.

Dream vs. Reality

But reality has broken the bigotry of the most undaunted. It was of course mere mechanical calculation to think that if automobile factories were converted into aircraft works it would be easy to manufacture 50,000 planes a year. The goal was soon brought down to 40,000 and by January last year it had dwindled to 25,000. In March, Assistant Secretary of War Patterson stated that the United States was aiming at the production of 21,000 craft a year.

As a matter of fact, it was only in January last year that the United States was able to bring production up to 1,000 planes a month. In February, on account of some minor changes in design, it at once went down below the 1,000 level. Since then there was at least statistical smoothness, for in July output was 1,460, in August 1,854, in September 1,914 and the aggregate figure between January and September 12,651, according to the magazine Business Week. According to the exposure of Senator Byrd in regard to the figure for July, about half of the 1,460 produced in that month were training craft, 245 light bombers, 95 medium bombers and only 12 heavy bombers. It was reported that in October the output exceeded 2,000 machines but the distribution of the types could not have been much different.

Asks Increase

President Roosevelt in May last year sent a message to Secretary of War Stimson demanding an increase in the production of heavy bombers, setting the rate for four-motor bombers at 500 a month. For the construction of plants to manufacture the aluminum, magnesium and other materials and parts needed the President authorized the spending of $1,000,000,000. Thus in Omaha, Nebraska, as assemblage factory for turning out 100 Martin B-26's was built; in Kansas City one for turning out 100 North American B-25's. In Tulsa, Oklahoma, and in Fort Worth, Texas, there is one each for producing 50 Consolidated B-24's all owned by the Government. The Ford, General Motors, Chrysler and other motor factories were mobilized to supply parts. As already mentioned, production in July only amounted to 12 heavy bombers and the magazine United States News admitted that the average output in recent months came to only 20 in spite of the fact that there was equipment enough for producing 130. It cited as the retarding factors the deficiencies in machine tools, frequent strikes and delays in deliveries by sub-contract shops. It concluded that production of 500 machines monthly would be impossible until 1943.

Since the commencement of hostilities with Japan, American automobile factories have been turned into munition plants at a faster tempo but it is another matter entirely whether motor plants can be turned into aircraft factories to manufacture flying machines by mass production. In 1927 Ford Motors changed its sedan model and in that month not one car was produced. Since aircraft are machines of vastly greater precision, such a sudden conversion of plants would not be as easy as unthinking persons might imagine. The use of automobile-making machinery for manufacturing aircraft would also be attended with many difficulties.

Only 18% Convertible

In England it was calculated that about 25 per cent of the motor-car factory equipment could be used for manufacturing aircraft parts but later they discovered that they had made a gross mistake. At the Chysler factories it was discovered that even for the manufacture of as simple an article as cannon shells only 18 per cent of the automobile-making equipment could be used. Automobile manufacturers, in fact, estimate that only 5 per cent of their existing equipment could be used and the manufacture of aircraft and parts. Some of them even contend that it would be utterly impossible to use the existing equipment for producing munitions, it being much simpler to build factories and equipment afresh. It would be a sight worth seeing, therefore, if the United States were able to convert automobile factories into aircraft plants in the way it wishes within six months.

Curtiss Wright, vice-president of Curtiss-Wright, has declared that it was treason to mislead the people by issuing a statement claiming the production of 1,000 planes a month and said that 50,000 machines a year could only be realized in 1944. In October last year the United States may have been able to turn out 2,000 a month but even at that pace the annual production is 24,000. Mass production at a rush in precision machinery like aircraft is fatal to performance. As a matter of fact, many craft of which the Americans boast have been shot down by the Imperial Army and Navy Air Forces. Moreover, with Hongkong lost, Manila taken, Singapore fallen and other important advance bases wrested from it, what is the United States thinking of doing with the planes that it is building at such furious but futile tempo?

INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS AID ECONOMIC PLANS

Prefectural Agencies Set-up To Facilitate Production Expansion

Since the completion of the new economic structure movement is prerequisite to the rationalization of Japan's economy and the subsequent expansion of the industrial productivity, the Government has decided to create prefectural agencies for facilitating the move after repeated negotiations among the Commerce and Industry, Agriculture and Forestry, and Welfare Ministries. The projected bodies, named the new commercial and industrial structure councils, will exert themselves to stabilize the living of those who have been or will be affected by the amalgamation campaigns.

The instructions to this effect were sent Monday to prefectural governors with the signatures of vice-Ministers of Commerce and Industry, Agriculture and Forestry, and Welfare. The appropriations for these councils for the 1942 fiscal year will amount to ¥67,000,000, ¥30,000,000 of which is to be supplied by the Commerce and Industry Ministry, another ¥30,000,000 by the Agriculture and Forestry Ministry and ¥7,000,000 by the Welfare Ministry.

New commercial and industrial structure councils will be headed by prefectural governors with their memberships being taken by representatives of commercial and industrial guilds, chambers of commerce and industry, other industrial bodies, important companies, the Imperial Rule Assistance Association and university professors.

Matters Controlled by Councils

Major matters, which will be administered by the councils include the drafting of the general policy regarding the corporate amalgamation and the guidance of the vocational change of those who have been or will be affected by the Government's economic control measures.

Meanwhile the Federation of Rayon Manufacturers Associations has recently drafted the second rayon manufacturing industry amalgamation scheme which is based on the priorities system, reports the Asahi. The merger plan will be introduced for approval at an extraordinary general meeting of the association to be held on Thursday at the Dai-Ichi Hotel, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku.

Although the content of the plan has not yet been disclosed, the smaller manufacturers will be absorbed by the bigger ones or will form blocs through amalgamation among themselves. A part of the existing rayon manufacturing machinery which is capable of producing 750 tons a day at full capacity will be disposed of as idle facilities.

Bank of Japan Accounts

February 25
(In ¥1,000)

Note Issues	4,891,519
Over Issues	281,519
Deposits	519,511
Loans	398,761

Closing Quotations Of Key Local Bonds, Stocks, Commodities

Closing prices of key local stocks, commodities and bonds yesterday on the Tokyo, Yokohama, and Osaka exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new, short-term	135.3	— .70
N.Y.K., new, short-term	95.0	— 1.10
Kanegafuchi Spinning, new, short-term	91.1	— .80
Yokohama raw silk forward	15.23	+ .02
Government bonds, Kogo 5s	106.40	+ .05

FUTURE OIL SUPPLY FROM SOUTH AMPLE

Petroleum Shortage Concern Alleviated by Japanese Occupation of Indies

Although some quarters seem to be a bit concerned over the future of the synthetic oil industry of this country in anticipation of abundant supply of oil as a result of the Japanese occupation of the Dutch East Indies, British Borneo, Burma and other southern regions, there is no cause for such worries, states the Nihon Kogyo Tuesday.

According to the paper, from the standpoint of the productive capacity expansion alone, the present extremely restricted consumption of oil will be necessarily increased, while petroleum required in the course of the execution of the Greater East Asia War, too, will amount to a vast quantity.

Oil Supply Continued

Hitherto, more than half of the oil produced in the above southern regions was exported to British Malaya, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, China, French Indo-China and other places forming the Co-Prosperity Sphere. As a result, the supply of oil to these regions must be continued even after the completion of the War of Greater East Asia. Moreover, a new demand is rising in Manchoukuo for petroleum.

When the above circumstances are taken into consideration, there is no need of worrying about the surplus supply of petroleum as a result of the occupation of the southern oil producing lands, and consequently about the future of the synthetic oil industry of this country.

That the Government is contemplating to expand further the synthetic oil industry of this country was endorsed in the act that the bill governing the expansion of the business of the Imperial Fuel Development Corporation was presented to the present session of the Imperial Diet. The fact serves greatly to wipe out the apprehension felt in some quarters.

In the future, with the Imperial Fuel Development Corporation as the center of the industry, the synthetic oil industry of this country will prosper in parallel with oil drilling and the refining industry, concludes the paper.

FARM CONSTRUCTION FOR OCCUPIED AREAS

Detailed Research Scheme for Agrarian Conditions Drawn Up

The Japan Central Agricultural Cooperative Society has formed a Council for the Investigation of the Southern Agricultural Resources to keep step with the military progress made by the Imperial Forces in the South, and to closely follow their footsteps by consolidating occupied areas through agricultural reconstruction. The Society called the second session of the members of the Investigation Council on Monday at the Central Bank of Cooperative Society Building, Marunouchi, Tokyo, where a detailed scheme for conducting research on agricultural conditions of the Southern areas as shown below was formulated. The Society hopes shortly to launch full-fledged research, in accordance with principles laid down in the plan, says the Chugai.

The plan is divided into three broad sections: (1) Areas for Investigation; (2) Objects of Investigation; (3) Trend of production by areas and international trade relations with countries of the Co-Prosperity Sphere and other parts of the world.

Detailed Outline

1. Areas for Investigation: French Indo-China, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaya, the Netherlands East Indies, Borneo, New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand and other parts of Oceania.
2. Objects of Investigation: (a) rice, wheat, wheat flour, other grains, maize, tapioca, sweet potato; (b) raw cotton, hemp, kapok, pulp; (c) peanuts, copra, palm, other vegetable oil resources; (d) rubber, tobacco, cinchona; (e) tea, coffee, cocoa; (f) fruits; (g) rock phosphate, other fertilizer resources; (h) cattle and poultry, and their by-products.
3. Production by areas and their international trade relations: Weather, soil analysis, irrigation, extent of arable land, productive capacity, farming methods employed, cropping seasons, labor conditions, wages, extent of use made of cattle and machinery.

Other matters which will receive attention of the investigators are the kinds of farm managements in common use, such as plantation system or primitive methods used by natives. In regard to plantations the nationalities of owners, whether individuals or corporations, amount of capital invested, number of workers employed, enterprise expenditures, amount of crops, agents conducting collection of farm products and their shipment to markets, facilities for shipment, storage and manufacture, etc., will be investigated.

Farm Products Exported

Attention will also be shown regarding exportation of farm products of the South to countries of the Co-Prosperity Sphere as well as to other parts of the world, and imports into the Southern areas from abroad, by destinations and by countries of origin. Custom tariffs, and export encouragement policies adopted by countries of the South will also be delved into.

Research on financial activities and cattle breeding industry will be carried out on independent lines. As far as possible distinct studies will be prosecuted, distinguishing economic conditions prevailing before and after the outbreak of the China Incident.

The Society also hopes to add a Department of Silk to the Southern Agricultural Investigation Council, adds the paper.

COTTON, RAYON HIGH IN SHORT-TERM TRADE

Active Buying in Peacetime Industrials Attributed to Stimulating Front News

Cotton spinnings, rayon industrials and sugar wares continued to jump on the short-term market of the Tokyo stock exchange Wednesday, while the tendency of the bourse issue was not so bright as Tuesday. However, a strong tone, generally speaking, pervaded the long-term market.

An active buying sentiment for the peacetime industrials on the short-term market is understood to be attributable chiefly to the favorable reaction to the occupation by the Japanese Forces of Tandjoengkarang, a key point at the southwestern extremity of Sumatra Island, and successful activities in Timor and Java Islands. The confirmation by the Imperial Headquarters of the news to the effect that a Japanese submarine Tuesday shelled the California coast, United States, helped noticeably to brighten the atmosphere of the bourse.

Among the peacetime issues, Teikoku Rayon rose by ¥2.50 and Kurashiki Silk by ¥2.70. An advance of ¥1.80-¥1.90 was seen in Kanegafuchi Spinning, new, Kurashiki Silk, new and Toyo Rayon, new. N.Y.K., new which made a remarkable jump Tuesday failed to continue the upward trend on the short-term market on Wednesday, while on the long-term market a comparatively strong tone pervaded N.Y.K., new, and O.S.K., new.

Closing quotations of key wares on the afternoon session are as follows: Tokyo Exchange, new, ¥134.50; N.Y.K., ¥110.10; its new, ¥95.0; Kanegafuchi Spinning, ¥156.60; and its new ¥111.10.

Long-Term Market

Long-term market prices in yesterday's afternoon session were:

First Section	Clos.		Mar.	Apr.
Fuji Spinning (50)	67.1	u1.1	67.6	68.4
Do. new (25)	39.7	u1.9	39.1	39.3
Kanegafuchi Spin (50)	155.9	u .2	....	159.5
Do. new (25)	101.3	u1.9	102.9	103.1
Teikoku Rayon (50)	104.7	u2.7	105.9	106.4
Do. new (37½)	95.2	u1.7	96.3	96.7
Tokyo Rayon (50)	35.5	u .2	35.0	35.1
Toyo Rayon, new (50)	76.2	u1.9	77.0	77.6
Electro-chemical (50)	59.0	d .9	60.5	61.0
Ensuiko Sugar (50)	62.9	u .5	64.0	64.4
Second Section				
N. Y. K. (50)	111.5	u 1	112.7	113.3
Do. new (37½)	95.3	u .5	....	96.8
O. S. K. (50)	100.9	u .1	....	102.3
Do. new (37½)	85.6	u .5	86.8	87.3
Ishikawajima S.B. (50)	82.1	u .1	83.0	83.7
Do. new (25)	54.2	...	55.0	55.4
Uraga Dock (50)	....		89.0	89.8
Mitsubishi Heavy (50)	103.2	u .7	103.7	104.2
Hitachi Works (50)	76.0	u .6	77.0	75.6
Steel Tube (50)	76.6	u .2	77.9	78.3
Third Section				
S. M. R. (50)	70.1	u .1	....	71.9
Japan Fat (50)	62.5	u .1	63.5	63.7
Japan Soda (25)	30.2	d .3	31.0	31.2
Japan Oil (50)	81.2	u .5	82.4	82.8
Karafuto Oil (50)	51.3	u1.7	52.5	52.5

Government Bonds

Government bonds spot prices yesterday afternoon were:

Kogo 5%	106.40	106.40	106.40	106.40
Second 5%	106.35	106.35	106.35	106.35
First 4%	102.85	102.85	102.85	102.85

Short-Term Market

Short-term prices yesterday afternoon were:

	Open.	High	Low	Clos
Tokyo Stock, new	....	....	....	134.3
N. Y. K., old	....	....	....	110.1
N. Y. K., new	....	....	....	95.0
Kanegafuchi Spin.	....	....	....	156.3
Do. new	....	....	....	101.1
Teikoku Rayon, n.	....	....	....	94.9
Osaka Stock, new	....	....	....	73.7
S. M. Railway	....	....	....	71.2
Mitsubishi Heavy	....	....	....	103.1
Hitachi Works	....	....	....	76.1
Japan Steel Tube	....	....	....	76.0
Japan Oil	....	....	....	81.4
Japan Mining	....	....	....	62.1
Manchurian Ind	....	....	....	58.2

Timor Waters Described as Virgin Field Of Marine Treasures; Bonito, Tunny Abound

With Rising Sun flags fluttering over the Island of Timor as a result of the Imperial Forces' successful landing there at dawn of February 20, Japan has acquired in the tropical Sea of Timor a virgin field of marine treasure—fishing grounds of tunnies and bonitos, says Saburo Kawabe, of the Wakayama Prefectural Fisheries Experimental Station, according to a local paper.

Last year, Mr. Kawabe took part in the station's expedition in search of untapped fishing grounds in the southwestern Pacific. His motorship Kiyo Maru made a call at Deli on the island during the expedition.

Mr. Kawabe described the expedition in the following vein:

"The inhabitants' way of fishing is quite primitive. They use drag-nets or cast nets from canoes and fishing boats equipped with motors are things unknown to them. Accordingly, their catch is negligible, though the seas abound in various fishes.

When the expeditionary party landed on Deli on July 6 of last year, the customs officials were surprised by the size of the tunnies presented to them, while Japanese residents there were delighted with the fish, saying, "We didn't dream that we could eat tunny 'sashimi' here on Timor far from our homeland."

"But those fish were the party's hauls on that day in the Bay of Timor," Mr. Kawabe continued. "At any rate, the seas around the island is an untapped treasure house as fishing grounds of bonitos and tunnies waiting for development by the Japanese."

In conclusion, he added that when the party called at Deli some 10 Japanese resided there, including employes of the Japan Airways Company stationed there in connection with the inauguration of a regular Palau-Deli air route.

1942-3 S.M.R. BUDGET STRESSES PRIORITIES

Company Appropriates Sum For New Undertakings and Other Investments

The contents of the South Manchurian Railway Company's budget for the 1942 fiscal year amounting to ¥460,000,000 were disclosed Tuesday upon approval of the Manchurian Affairs Board, says the Chugai. A perusal of the new budget shows that it embraces only urgent enterprises to the exclusion of others considered non-urgent to meet the demand of the day.

The sum representing the total budget for the new fiscal year includes ¥139,264,000 appropriated for the company's new undertakings, and ¥323,612,000 to be invested with other companies and enterprisers, showing an increase amounting to ¥80,000,000 as compared with the figures for the preceding year.

Funds required for the new fiscal year will be supplied by calling for the payment of unpaid shares of the company which will be respectively supplied by the Japanese Government amounting to ¥70,000,000 and by civilian shareholders amounting to ¥60,000,000. In addition thereto new debentures will be issued to the amount of ¥250,000,000. Remaining deficit will be met by making use of a part of the company's reserves.

Next Fiscal Year Estimates

Estimates for the revenue and expenditure of the company for the next fiscal year are as follows: revenue ¥1,010,245,000 against expenditure amounting to ¥924,987,000, leaving ¥85,258,000 as balance profit. These figures are compared with the previous year's revenue amounting to ¥846,633,000 against expenditure standing at ¥774,644,000, leaving ¥71,989,000 as profit, showing the estimate profit for the new fiscal year greater by ¥13,000,000 over that for the preceding year.

Estimates of revenues and expenditures for 1942 are itemized as follows: (Unit: ¥1,000, Figures in brackets stand for 1941)

Revenue		
Railway revenue	¥800,640	(¥653,196)
Ports revenue	27,621	(25,813)
Shipping revenue	7,565	(6,641)
Automobile and truck service revenue	23,923	(21,733)
Mining revenue	104,739	(104,739)
Petroleum revenue	22,625	(20,808)
Miscellaneous revenue	3,873	(14,170)
Interest on loans	19,259	(15,540)
Total	1,010,245	(846,633)
Expenditures		
Railway management	611,302	(496,596)
Ports management	28,913	(24,112)
Shipping management	9,790	(8,472)
Automobile and truck service management	29,213	(28,065)
Mining management	88,913	(77,683)
Petroleum production management	18,109	(16,251)
General office management	41,687	(39,761)
Interest on debts	95,060	(81,714)
Reserve	2,000	(2,000)
Total	924,987	(774,644)

PERSONNEL CHANGES NOT EXPECTED MADE

Bank of Japan Governor to Remain; By-Laws Under Revision

In connection with the present reorganization of the Bank of Japan no particularly drastic personnel change is expected to be effected in its management, reports the Yomiuri Wednesday.

According to the paper, Toyotaro Yuki, Governor of the Bank of Japan, who has been in office for four years and some months already, is likely to remain at least until August of this year when his term of office expires. No change will be made in the governorship, the paper predicts, in view of the fact that Mr. Yuki occupies a firm place in the financial world of this country and it is difficult to obtain a suitable successor to him when Okinori Kaya, one of the most likely candidates, is holding a post in the Tojo Cabinet as Finance Minister.

However, Seigo Yamanouchi, Vice-Governor of the Bank, is reported to have made known his intention to resign because of poor health since last November when he assumed the post.

The problem on the authorization of directors is one of the main points in the reorganization now under contemplation and no decision has been reached yet on whether the minority or majority director system will be adopted. Accordingly, the time is not ripe to comment upon the attitude the present directors are to take, states the paper. However, taking the opportunity of the reorganization of the bank, Yoshio Hirase, senior director, is likely to retire in his juniors' favor but the rest of the present directors will remain in office.

With the passing in the present session of the Diet of the revised Bank of Japan bill, the reorganized Bank of Japan will complete its machinery and restart as the financial center not only of Japan but also of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, concludes the paper adding that for that purpose the articles, by-laws and some of the personnel of the bank are under contemplation for revision.

Bill Clearings

February 25
(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	293,340	159,404
Balance	611,185	275,561

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TOKYO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1942

Submarines and the Outcome of the War

Imperial Headquarters announced yesterday that a Japanese submarine shelled the California coast in the vicinity of Santa Barbara almost at the very time that President Roosevelt was delivering his pathetically apologetic fireside chat. Also, for some time recently, German submarines are known to have been operating all along the American Atlantic coast from Newfoundland to the Caribbean Sea. The United States, free from hostile invasion since the War of 1812, is learning again how it feels to be subjected to attack.

Berlin newspapers report that the German submarines operating in American waters are able to cross the Atlantic twice without refueling and are able furthermore to remain away from their bases for a long enough period to inflict extensive damage to enemy shipping. London and Washington used to declare that Germany possessed only a few submarines capable of cruising 8,000 miles, but this statement has been proved to be another complacent underestimation of the enemy on the part of the blind and incompetent British and American authorities.

These submarine operations prove three things. First, it proves the matchless character of Japanese-German co-operation. By coordinating their activities along both coasts, the Axis partners are making it necessary for the United States to divide her already depleted naval strength in two directions, with disastrous results in both. Second, it proves the utter wrecking of the American war plans. Far from regarding the Rhine as her first line of defense or Chungking as her base for an attack on Japan as she used to boast, the United States is now shown to be unable successfully even to defend her own coast. It is a complete reversal of the American anticipations, a reversal so complete as to be irretrievable. Third, it proves that the Allies have lost the mastery of the seas without which ultimate victory is impossible.

These submarine activities prove more conclusively than any argument what the ultimate outcome of the present war will be.

Roosevelt Condemns Himself

Repeated readings of the text of President Roosevelt's fireside chat of February 23 reveal increasingly the enormity of the tacit confessions of failure which the speech contains.

For example, the President stated that if America should lose contact with her allies in the south Pacific, the extensive areas including the Netherlands East Indies and Australia would pass under Japan's sway. That is tantamount to saying that the Netherlands East Indies and Australia have already been lost to Japan, for it is well known that for all practical purposes the United States for some time has had no contact with her allies in the south Pacific. Despite the President's vague allusion to the fact that American pilots and American naval crews were contacting the Japanese in the southwest Pacific, he was unable to give any facts about substantial reinforcements. In other words, America's contact with her allies in the south Pacific has already been lost, the dire results of which the President himself has pointed out.

The President further amplified his admission by refuting the theory that the Hawaiian debacle had helped the Japanese in their Philippine campaign. On the one hand he bemoaned the American defeat at Pearl Harbor, in the next breath he minimized the losses sustained there, and then again he declared that it had no effect on the Philippine campaign. It would have been impossible to send aid to the Philippines in any case, he declared. Aside from the fact that this statement flatly contradicts his previous assurances to the Filipinos that aid was on the way, it is an admission of the fact that the United States has never at any time since the outbreak of the war been able to make any trans-Pacific contacts.

As for contradictions, the most wonderful is the President's statement that the Americans of today are guided by the same spirit as the Americans of 1776. The allusion is certainly not very clear, for the Americans of 1776 were not fighting to perpetuate an outworn system of status quo as the Americans of today are doing. The Americans of 1776 were not fighting to perpetuate the tyrannies of an overseas colonial empire, as the Americans of today are doing with respect to the British empire in India and the Dutch empire in the Indies. The Americans of 1776 were not fighting to interfere with the affairs of Europe and Asia as the Americans under Roosevelt are trying to do.

The complete bankruptcy of logic and ideas in his speech reveals the desperate straits to which Roosevelt has been driven. How frantic he must be can be seen from his actions apart from his speech. The latest news is that he has peremptorily ordered the wholesale evacuation of thousands of Japanese from the coastal areas of the United States without affording the victims time to arrange their affairs. Abandon all belongings and clear out by midnight, is the ukase of the American dictator. So ruthless and inhumane and meaningless is the order that even American organizations have protested the action as "one of the cruelest acts ever inflicted upon a helpless minority and one of the most dastardly acts ever carried out by a so-called Christian nation."

Roosevelt stands condemned by his own words and by the accusations of his own people.

ROOSEVELT-CHURCHILL TEAMWORK FAILS TO MAKE ANY ACHIEVEMENT

Anglo-American Attempt to Induce Neighbor Countries Into War Against Axis Powers Fruitless

By YOSHITARO KUSUYAMA

Yoshitaro Kusuyama, until recently chief of the European and American section, is now editorial writer of the Tokyo Nichi Nichi Shimbun, with which paper he has been connected since 1920. He has served as staff correspondent in various places abroad and the dispatches he sent from 1939 to 1940 have attracted attention. He is the author of Zaishi Obeijin no Jikyokukan (Viewpoints of Europeans and Americans in China).

From Contemporary Japan,
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Part II

President Roosevelt's diplomatic blunder has served as a signal for critics, both American and foreign, to question his statesmanship. Why he has committed such a gross blunder is a question worthwhile to study closely. There seem to be various causes for it. One is a popular statesman's weakness for playing to the gallery. Another is a fatal shortcoming in the American diplomatic machinery. American Ambassador Joseph Grew and Counselor Eugene Dooman appear to be well versed in Japan and things Japanese, but they are familiar with only one side of Japan and entirely ignorant of the other side.

But the American Ambassador alone cannot be blamed because all diplomats possess such a weakness in common. Anyhow, the American Ambassador and the counselor used to form their opinions on the trend of Japanese policies on the basis of information placed at their disposal by those Japanese who were of the so-called pro-American clique. Not only that, the State Department, headquarters of American diplomacy, is headed by Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, assisted by Sumner Welles, Assistant Secretary of State, both of whom cannot claim any fair knowledge of the Orient.

Atmosphere at State Department

To make matters worse, the atmosphere prevailing in the State Department was decidedly anti-Japanese, due to the activities and influences of Dr. Stanley K. Hornbeck, Adviser on Political Relations who is anti-Japanese, and Chief Hamilton of the Far Eastern Division, who is extremely pro-Chinese. Assisted by such a staff, Roosevelt might have fallen an easy prey to the war party in this Cabinet, which was headed by Colonel Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, and Colonel Henry Stimson, Secretary of War.

Both the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War are successful demagogues, to be sure, skilled in their stirring harangues; but they are too rough and too careless in discussing foreign affairs, the conduct of which calls for utmost caution. This must have been well known to President Roosevelt, who, however, utilized them diplomatically in restraining Japan and also in the domestic field in manipulating the opposition side, taking advantage of their affiliations with the Republican Party. As it was, however, the President went to gather wool and returned shorn, his talent overshooting itself.

Last, but not the least important cause for Roosevelt's diplomatic blunder with Japan was the contention of Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, which prevailed upon the President. The Secretary of the Treasury, who believes in the superiority of American total national resources to those of Japan, held that the best way to deal with Japan consisted in a diplomatic bluff, having belittled Japan's national resources, which he thought had been drained by the four-year-old China Affair.

'Million-Dollar' Smile Disappears

An interesting scene is said to have developed during the Washington Conference, when Churchill in his usual cynical way touched upon America's sore spots from time to time. Roosevelt is said to have kept a sour face all through the conference, his famous "million-dollar" smile, which reputedly does not fail to captivate everybody coming in contact with him, entirely disappearing from his countenance.

The conference, which got under way with wry faces by Roosevelt and Churchill, naturally failed to reach an understanding for the organization of a united command for the defense of the Anglo-American interests, which ought to have been settled amicably between America and Britain. An agreement seemed to have been reached between the American and British statesmen with regard to the Latin American question as well as to the formula for dealing with the Soviet Union. There are other sides to those questions, however, which could not be settled between America and Britain alone.

A conference of pan-American Foreign Ministers was recently held at Rio de Janeiro under the auspices of the United States for the avowed purpose of persuading the Latin American countries to form an anti-Axis war front under the beautiful name of American solidarity. It was the desire of the United States to make all the Latin American countries declare war upon the Axis Powers without any exception, failing which America desired that the Latin American countries should sever their diplomatic relations with the Axis Powers.

War Declaration Refused

A joint declaration of war, however, upon the Axis Powers was out of the question even before the conference was set in motion, which refused to adopt a resolution with a unanimous vote for making war upon the Axis Powers, mainly due to opposition from Argentina and Chile. The conference ended with the adoption of a lukewarm promise plan, perhaps to save Roosevelt's face and the United States' political prestige, recommending practically that "the decision to sever diplomatic relations with the Axis Powers be left to each country."

In other words, the joint declaration for severing diplomatic relations with Japan, "which attacked the United States," and with Germany and Italy, "which declared war upon the United States," failed to materialize, but instead a resolution, embodying a recommendation was adopted, thus defeating Roosevelt's policy for involving all the Latin American countries in the war with the Axis nations for the time being at least.

Judging by his obstinate character, it is not to be presumed that Roosevelt will give up his idea because of the initial failure. On the contrary, he will keep up his efforts to coax Argentina and Chile into an alignment with the United States directly or through third Powers.

Ambassadorial Changes

There is another cause of affliction for Roosevelt and Churchill, and that is in connection with the Soviet Union. Just about the same time when Churchill secretly left London for Washington in December, last year, Major Eden visited Moscow. The British Government recently appointed Sir Archibald Clark Kerr as Ambassador to Moscow, assigning him to the Soviet capital from Chungking, while the American Government is reported to be contemplating to replace Laurence A. Steinhardt, present Ambassador to Moscow, with another diplomat, most probably Major-General James Barns. These ambassadorial changes on the part of the United States and Britain are nothing but a manifestation of their diplomatic moves, calculated to drag the Soviet Union into the Pacific war.

The enlistment of Soviet services in prosecuting the war with Japan was one of the major topics of discussion between Churchill and Roosevelt at their Washington Conference. But will the master of the Kremlin allow himself to become an Anglo-American tool? Interests of the Soviet Union and Britain, both material and sentimental, are diametrically opposed, as may be seen from a remark of the British Prime Minister. Last summer, when Winston Churchill concluded a treaty of alliance between Britain and the Soviet Union, he declared that he would shake hands even with the "devil" to crush Germany.

One-Sided Request

Again, from autumn to winter, last year, when Moscow was threatened by the steady German onslaughts, Josef Stalin requested him to organize a second war front against Germany in Europe, but the British Prime Minister's response was an indifferent reply. This will never be forgotten by the Soviet Premier. Following the outbreak of war on the Pacific between Japan on the one hand and the United States and the British Empire on the other, Britain is asking the Soviet Union to form a second front against Japan in the north. It is a one-sided request, to say the least.

Setting aside such a sentimental question, however, a full consideration of its material interests will dictate the Soviet Union not to wage war with Japan at present. Thanks to the advent of "General Winter," the Soviet forces apparently are retrieving their defeats to some extent, to be sure; but no one can foretell developments of the coming spring battle between Germany and the Soviet Union, especially as Chancellor Hitler openly declares that he will resume military operations against the Soviet Union on a large scale.

Staking everything in his war with Germany, including his country, his political party and his personal position, Premier Stalin has his hands too full to pay attention to the Orient. Further, it must be remembered that the political relations between Japan and the Soviet Union are regulated by their neutrality pact, which both the Japanese and Soviet Governments intend to observe fully, as enunciated by their spokesmen on more than one occasion. The Soviet Union now finds itself under circumstances which render it impossible for it to take a provocative attitude toward Japan from materialistic, legal or moral viewpoints. This accounts for an early prospect of the fishery modus vivendi being amicably concluded between Japan and the Soviet Union as well as for a conciliatory Soviet proposal for instituting a joint investigation into the Kehi Maru case, in which a Japanese steamer sank off Chosen after striking a floating Soviet mine.

Far More Difficult

What aid Britain and America may promise to give the Soviet Union, it would be far more difficult to make the Soviet Union wage war with Japan than to induce the Latin American countries to fall in line with them. Sustaining as they did an uninterrupted series of naval defeats on the Pacific, they may resort to anything to galvanize their national morale.

In this connection, the Anglo-American air strategy against Japan apparently includes a desk plan of air attacks on the Island Empire via Soviet territory in East Asia, from Dutch Harbor in the Aleutians. But an air base set up by America in Soviet territory in its contemplated attack upon Japan would precipitate a war between Japan and the Soviet Union. It is not within the range of possibilities that the Soviet Government would risk such a certain danger, how hard and how eloquently the Anglo-American diplomats might exhort it to take such a course, unless the United States and Britain undertake to organize a western front in Europe against Germany, by sending a joint expedition to the European continent.

The Soviet Union would never be content with mere material aid to be promised by America and Britain. Hard pressed as it is now, Britain absolutely is not in a position to create a second war front against Germany on the European continent. Nor is the United States able to dispatch any large contingent of troops to the European continent, though America has

(Continued on Page 4)

JAPAN YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Ancestor-Worship

By SANTARO
Of Japan Times and Advertiser Staff

Part II

The question may arise as to why the Japanese have become such incorrigible ancestor-worshippers. First, you may put it down to Japanese piety or loyalty; we emulate with heart-felt pride and obedience whatever example set by the Emperor. As the Emperor honors his August ancestors, so do we ours as well as the Imperial ancestors.

Secondly, Buddhism has had a great influence in molding ancestor-worship. The key doctrine of Buddhism is "Inga," or "In-nen"—eternal succession of cause and effect—as applied to the life of man which is believed to last for ever through the recurring cycle of life and death, of heaven, hell, earth, etc. It teaches that we have lived many lives in a previous state of existence in various forms and in various conditions, divine, human or bestial, according to the law of transmigration, and are destined so to live in the future. This doctrine, allied to and accentuated by that of Shinto, which is but another name for the cult of Imperial ancestor-worship, have implanted in the Japanese mind an ineradicable love and veneration for the dead.

The Chinese, being Buddhists, are also confirmed worshippers of their ancestors, but they are innocent of Shintoism which is exclusively Japan's, and their past chronicles are much complicated by several dynastical revolutions, so that the character of their ancestors is of mingled yarn, so to speak. The quality of Japanese ancestors, however, remains pure, unsullied with any alien, still less hostile, element.

The most significant psychological cause, however, it seems to me, is in consideration of a realistic nature. A highly practical and efficient people, vested with a wealth of commonsense like the Japanese, are hardly expected to worship any god or gods without good utilitarian reason. Deep piety cannot be altogether incompatible with the so-called divine selfishness.

Mighty Gifts of Dead

Look wherever we may, do we not behold on every hand unmistakable evidence of the immeasurable debt we owe to our ancestors? First of all, our eyes must reverentially rest upon the glorious Imperial Throne, the inexhaustible fountain of national power and prestige and of popular welfare, which has flowed, so to speak, from the original source of the first Emperor, Jimmu Tenno, who himself had descended in an unbroken line from the seeds of the creating deities, Izanagi-no-Mikoto and Izanami-no-Mikoto. This fact alone is enough to make ancestor-worship a national religion of Japan.

The house we live in, the apparel we wear and the food we eat, are they not all gifts of our ancestors? Our house is a modification of the abode our ancestors had built; our kimono has evolved from the robes worn by them; the rice we eat is the same as that which the deities had taught our ancestors to raise and cook. There is not a thing we know or say, or any act we perform in which we had not the benefit of instruction or example left by our ancestors. Take a little cup from which we drink. In inventing it, nay, in fashioning it, perfecting and beautifying it, how many of our ancestors must have spent their days, months, their whole lifetimes even!

In the single beam or pillar across your room you may read the very epitome of many a precious lifetime of devoted work on the part of our numerous ancestors. I have had occasion lately to glance through a "History of Japanese Manners and Customs" in 10 volumes, and am surprised at the fact of a long series of numerous changes which have taken place in the mode of living of the Japanese since ancient times to the present, each period presenting peculiar fashions different from those preceding or following it, as seen in their many black-and-white and colored illustrations.

A Living Issue

Even the kimono we wear daily which we do not consider as being a particularly ingenious sort of garment, embodies in truth the result of a very long evolution in costume carried on for over 10 centuries. It will be only trite to say—not the less true is it—that countless millions of our ancestors had been born, had lived and toiled and died in order that we of this generation and of this country may live in the present state of comparative ease and security that we enjoy. We are strong, loyal, patriotic, unconquerable, righteous-loving, benevolent and kind—all through the high example and teachings of our ancestors.

Indeed we cannot exist a single day, or an hour without deriving from the dead inestimable benefactions of one sort or another. The ungodliest wight he must be who does not revere the dead. Indeed the Japanese cannot imagine any persons more stupid or benighted than those who are not deeply persuaded at heart that their ancestors who had done so much in the past to influence us of the living cannot exert a potent influence also in shaping the destiny of the living generation. To the Japanese this is no mere psychological or abstract speculation as it seems to be in large measure to Hearn and Ibsen it is in the Japanese mind a concrete undoubtable fact, historically demonstrated and tangibly felt each day of our life.

Prince Ito's Testimonial

Consider for a moment how Japan as a nation has been indebted to the ancestors. The Restoration of Meiji, the late Hirobumi Ito once solemnly asserted, was the work of loyal subjects of the Emperor who were actuated and guided by the undying soul of Kusunoki Masashige. When in 1336 Masashige committed harakiri at Minatogawa he swore he would be seven times reborn on earth to perfect the work of Imperial Restoration which then he had to leave incomplete. The gifted Chikafusa in his famous work, Shinno Shoto Ki, made a great feature of Masashige's loyal exploits, and no less pathetic and heart-stirring were the ringing words of the classic, Taiheiki, in recounting his wonderful work and death.

In the great annals of Dai Nippon, compiled by the erudite historians of Mito school, and the Nippon Gaishi of Rai Sanyo, the greatest single historical writer of Yedo period, highest tributes of honor and admiration were also paid to Masashige's loyal heart. Myriads unnumbered since Masashige's time have been profoundly touched and influenced by his magic name. Thus Prince Ito's words are more than Restoration to inspire the hearts of the loyalists and to lead them to their final triumph.

Rebirth of Tokimune

We will not, indeed cannot, consider all the great successes of Japan in the past 70 years, but for the purpose of our present thesis it is sufficient to refer very briefly to the Greater East Asia War being waged at this moment. During the past few months the name of Hojo Tokimune has been more frequently on the Japanese lips everywhere than at any time we remember. It is obvious that the Japanese leaders, so promptly and patriotically responding to the Imperial bid for action against America and England, are being moved with the spirit of Tokimune who when challenged by Kublai's insolent overtures in 1281, resolutely threw down the gauntlet before his mighty hordes.

But the most sacred words constantly invoked by the Japanese since the beginning of the China Affair, are "Hakko-Ichiu"—the ideal of universal benevolence—proclaimed by Jimmu Tenno over 2,600 years ago. Both prove—in the Japanese mind—beyond the shadow of doubt that the people of this country, now engaged in the Greater East Asia War are exerting themselves at the rear of the campaign with the identical spirit of Tokimune for the clarification and realization of the high ideal enunciated by the first Emperor of Japan.

Same Old Strategy

More than one military strategist has come out with the statement that Japan's recent victories at Hawaii, Manila, Singapore, etc., have been won on the same principles of daring strategy of which many immortal examples had been set by great warriors of other days. The weapons of war have vastly changed, as have the circumstances under which battles are fought, but the Japanese soldiers now fighting in the Western and Southern Pacific are armed with the same military qualities as those which Yoshitsune displayed at the Hiyodorigoe battle (1184), Shingen and Kenshin did at Kawanakajima (1561), and Nobunaga at Okehazama (1160), or General Nogi did at Mukden and Admiral Togo at Tsushima. Using the old simple Japanese logic, we may say that the souls of the great warrior deities of the past have been reborn in the gallant soldiers of today to fight out this Greater East Asia War.

The debt we owe the past is incalculably great, and we are almost justified in thinking that we of the living world are but half conscious while the souls of our ancestors are actively alive in us to carry the Empire to its destined glory. How can the Japanese then help being worshippers of their ancestors. Indeed Japanese strength must be said to lie in the very cult of ancestor-worship.

(To Be Concluded)

RICE CONSIDERED STAPLE FOOD IN ASIA FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL

Japanese Have Sufficient Supply of 'Staff of Life'—Mainstay of National Economy

By AMAR LAHIRI

Part I

At a time when the question of Asiatic unity is in the banner headlines, a common sense viewpoint regarding the assertion that Asia is one whole points out that all the Asiatic peoples consume the same staple product, that is rice. In other words, the main food of the Oriental races is one, despite the fact that rice is not extensively used in certain parts of India and in greater parts of Iran, Afghanistan and Egypt. Nevertheless, taking Asia as a whole including Egypt, it can be said that rice is the chief "staff of life" of all the Asiatic peoples, disclosing that they have more or less identical moral and mental traits.

The imperativeness of rice in the life of the Orientals is undoubtedly great. In Japan, India and China during special seasons rice festivals are held and rice offerings are made to deities. The Imperial Household of Japan blesses the new crop, so that the nationals will have a sufficient supply of rice. This shows that rice is not only the food of these countries, but an element of national sanctity directed toward purification and preservation of their respective idealistic sentiments and phallicistic cults or rituals.

Price Economy

Since ages eternal, the wealth of an Asiatic nation has been measured in terms of the production of rice, and rice economy has been the mainstay of national economy. In Japan up to the Tokugawa period rice economy was the basis of regulating the living standard in the country. In India, too, rice production is regarded as the greatest source of local wealth. In China, Thailand, Burma and Indo-China rice is the potential means of livelihood and living.

Ellen C. Semple in the book, "Influences of Geographic Environment," says: "Man can no more be scientifically studied apart from the ground which he tills, or the land over which he travels." By this the writer means that land and man are inseparable and that man, being a product of earth's surface, is not only the child of earth, but is dependent on the land to maintain his life and living. The very first fact that emerges from studying the physical map of the world is that all the nations are primarily concerned with attaining food self-sufficiency. While in Asia rice production came to be regarded as the only means of sustaining livelihood, in Europe wheat and flour became the pragmatic source of combating the struggle for existence.

Reservoir of Food

The Asiatic man in the stone, copper and iron ages although he lived a primitive life depending on hunting, he at once realized that land had to be cultivated if the food problem had to be solved. Therefore, he came to the conclusion that earth was not merely the home of man, but it was the reservoir of food awaiting the need of his hands to give up its buried treasure of human sustenances. In the Old and New Testaments the question of respecting the spirit of land is well revealed, inasmuch as many Christian prophets had urged the populace to dedicate their physical attention to the tilling of land so that God's good earth would be their mortal heaven.

The Hebraic philosophy and Hellenic thoughts, similarly, stressed the need of evolving a land-man spirit. The ancient civilization of Rome spread far and wide, because the Roman empire-builders took due note of using the conquered territory for the benefit of themselves and of the subjugated people. Egypt, which has been conquered now by man-planned and man-made irrigation, in ancient times was not a barren desert so far as the production of foodstuffs were concerned.

The Nile valley is a case in point. The desert of Sinai in which, according to Hebrew legend, the Chosen people wandered for 40 years after their flight from Egypt was not wholly unresponsive to the fruit-gathering labor of the sons of Jehovah. The Nile Valley was then the cradle of civilization and it was therefore that energetic experiments were made there to solve the problem of food requirements. Karl Marx and Malthus in discussing economic prosperity, significantly alluded to the equi-distribution of supplies from the land.

Essential Food

In botany, rice is known by the appellation Oryza Sativa, indicating its importance as an essential food for human beings. As to what time rice production was undertaken by the Asiatic peoples is rather difficult to verify. However, the word rice appears frequently in the ancient Sanskrit language of India. The Rig Veda, one of the four Vedas of the Hindus, mentions it in connection with the spiritual training of the mind and also prescribes it as food for the maintenance of life and vigor.

In Japan, the word rice, it is believed, was current in the proto-historic period. Many Shinto rituals which still exist in the country from the archaic period testify that rice was under cultivation in Japan soon after the consolidation of the Japanese Empire during the days of primitive Shinto conceptions. In China, during the reign of the Emperor Ching-nang in 2,800 B.C., cultivation of rice was in vogue. Therefore, it would not be incorrect to imagine that the production of rice as a staple food was separately undertaken at the dawn of time by China and India, and later on by other Asiatic countries including Japan. It is quite possible that the production of rice in Japan had become a national affair before the introduction of Buddhism in the country.

Contacts With Chosen

It is well known that Japan had been maintaining contact with Chosen when pure Shinto was the medium of religious activities of the early Yamato race. The fact that a Japanese colony was in existence in Chosen, then called Kara by the Japanese, is evidence enough that Japan was engaged in trading with its neighbor. If that is so, it is not unlikely that Chosen rice was imported, heralding the production of rice in Japan within a short time. On the other hand, it must be remembered that the unearthing of several prehistoric bronze articles prove that Japan even at that remote time was endeavoring to shape its own type of economic and cultural independence.

For example, the designs and patterns of the "dotaku" bells discovered in central Japan around the Kinki district clearly disclose that in the early Han period the insular country was in communication with its continental neighbor. If that is so, then it can also be imagined that Japan might have imported rice at the beginning from China, swiftly nationalizing it as the staple food of the nation. In this connection, it may be observed that the term Kara was not only applicable to Chosen, but also to China. In view of this fact, it can be said that Japan started the cultivation of rice in the country after seeing its popularity in Kara, denoting the entire "Celestial Kingdom."

Mythology Reveals

The Japanese mythology reveals that the concept of land and man has been the basic fact since Jimmu Tenno founded the Empire. Certain Japanese Shinto scholars point out that before Japan established any contact with any Asiatic nation, it had already perceived the role of land in the life of man, which is clearly reflected in the then administrative system of "Matsurigoto." Henri Bergson believes that an understanding of the world can be attained only through an understanding of the creative impetus of the peoples of the world.

The term creative impetus, if applied to Japan, it will be seen that Shinto is the main conception of creativeness of the Japanese nation. Therefore, Shinto is also the spirit of land, the manifestation of which is revealed in the cultivation of rice and admiration for the flora and fauna of nature. The Shinto conception of Kami does not mean an abstract divinity; it means that divinity is present in all the elements of the world. Hence, it regards man as a divine spirit on earth and earth as reflecting the spirit of man who derives his creative energy from the highest Kami, the founder of the universe.

(To Be Concluded)

Synopsis of

CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE LITERATURE

KURA NO NAKA
(In a Storehouse)
1919

By KOJI UNO

A short story that appeared in the April, 1919, issue of the magazine Bunsho Sekai (World of Letters)—a representative work of the author.

The principal character of this story is an indolent author called Yamaji. He escapes from the noisy goings-on in his boarding house, and it having occurred to him that a good many garments would be aired at the pawnshop where he usually goes to borrow money, he asks the pawnbroker to let him look at his own clothes left there as security, in order that he might gratify his love for them. While admiring his clothes there in the upper storey, he makes the acquaintance of the pawnbroker's sister, a divorcee with a streak of hysteria.

The threads of the story presently become entangled, descriptions of how his advances toward the woman are rejected being interspersed with ample delineations of his eccentric personality and manner of living. He is a dandy, loves clothes as a woman does, and buys a great many, but in order to manage this he has to pawn them one after another. He is also an odd creature who indulges in a regular nap three times a day. Not only is he slovenly, but he also has an extraordinary weakness for women. This shows the kind of character he has become from having had amorous affairs since boyhood days with girls of questionable walks of life exclusively, and passed the 40 years of his life for this sort of thing. The "I" of the narrative, he rattles off in a disorderly fashion all the details of his escapades, each set of clothes he had worn recalling some one woman, so that the greater portion of the tale is made up of interesting digressions.

Atmosphere of Drollery

There is an atmosphere of drollery in the motif of this story. On the other hand the author's peculiar sense of pathos is hardly convincing. Nevertheless, instead of employing the conventional method of recounting the experiences of his own life, the author has constructed his narrative in the form of a conversation in which the principal character is made to dilate to another upon some interesting topics chosen at random from his curious store of personal observations. And rather than being the sort of arrangement whereby the separate threads of the narrative, as the tale diverts to other channels, are somehow skilfully knitted together with the principal theme, the digressions themselves are shown to constitute the main subject. What is more, at the bottom of this foolish tale there lies something essentially serious and straightforward. These, in short, are qualities with which the author's distinguishing characteristics are strongly indicated.

* * *

Born in 1891, this author's career spans the Taisho and Showa eras (1912-1926; 1926—). His style is that of the Realist school. Historically, he is regarded as a post-Naturalist writer. He is affiliated with the New Waseda group.

Losing his father while he was still a child, Koji Uno moved with his family to the Kansai district and spent the greater part of his boyhood in Osaka. Here he received his elementary and middle school education. In 1911 he went to Tokyo, where he entered Waseda University, College of Literature, but left that institution without completing his course. Finding no definite employment, he thereafter spent some time writing nursery tales, stories for girls, and so forth.

Meanwhile he became friendly with the Waseda school of writers, and persuaded by his close associates he plunged seriously into the writing profession, publishing his maiden effort Kura no Naka (In a Storehouse) in 1919. He next wrote Ku no Sekai (World of Care) the same year, which displayed a new literary style brimming with the milk of human kindness, a quality which rose from hardships and worries amid a rush of humor and garrulity. These two works brought him fame and a recognized place in the world of letters.

Achieves Popularity

The next year he repeated his previous successes, achieving an immense popularity at one bound as a writer of odd and interesting tales. From then on he gradually rose to a central position in letters, publishing several scores of works, chiefly short stories, during the latter half of the Taisho era. In 1927 he had an attack of insanity but recovered within a short time. After that he did not do much writing, keeping himself at a distance from the literary circles. In 1933 he "staged a come-back," publishing Ko no Raireki (A Child's Past Life), and other stories up to the present time.

Besides the aforementioned items, his important works include Takama-gahara, Gunko Koshin-Kyoku (Naval Port March) and a number of others.

The distinguishing feature of his work lies in the ingenious manner in which he, through his knack at the story-telling art, intersperses his comical good-humored bantering with a studied sense of pathos. It is compounded rather of practical wisdom, has almost no variation in style, yet in point of sentiment and expression, it possesses a distinct quality of tastefulness. It bears all the colorful characteristics peculiar to the narrative tale and is constantly preoccupied with delicate worldly affairs amid an endless flow of drollery, producing a spontaneous effect of human kindness and sympathy. (K.B.C.)